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Swedish American Genealogist




*A journal devoted to Swedish American
biography, genealogy and personal history*

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Swedish American Genealogist



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The Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center of Rock Island

A Guide to Resources and Holdings

Joel Lundeen, Lilly Setterdahl and Kermit Westerberg

The Swenson Center's Origin

There has long been a need for a major American archives and research center devoted to preserving and interpreting the records of Swedish immigration to North America. In Sweden, progress had been made through establishment of the Emigrant Institute in Våxjö and the Emigrant Register in Karlstad. Yet, in America, the existing research facilities have been oriented to separate geographical regions, religious denominations and societies. The newly created center at Augustana is designed to supplement efforts of already established programs and to serve as a national archives and research center regarding the total impact of Sweden on American life and culture.

The Center became a reality when a Swedish immigrant named Birger Swenson and his wife Lyal decided that they wanted to do something to preserve the heritage which had been so meaningful to them. Birger Swenson never earned a large salary, nor did he inherit any money. He did, however, meet with some success in investments. Because they had no children of their own, Mr. and Mrs. Swenson wanted to help Augustana College, their alma mater, which enabled Birger to obtain a much-wanted education. They also wanted to do something to recognize the Swedish immigrants who came to America during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Birger Swenson came to this country at the age of 16, graduated from Augustana College, and devoted his career to the field of publishing, retiring

in 1963. He served as the last General Manager of the Augustana Book Concern before merger of that organization into a larger publishing firm. For nearly a century, the Augustana Book Concern was a leading publisher of Swedish language material in America. On December 31, 1980, Birger and Lyl Swenson established an endowment at Augustana College in support of the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, which opened on September 1, 1981.

Aims and Objectives

The Swenson Center aims to be a national archives and research institute providing resources for study of the *total impact* of the Swedish immigrants on American life and culture. It will provide assistance to historians, social scientists, journalists, genealogists and others engaged in research of Swedish America. The Center is pledged to a program of co-operation with similar institutions in North America and Sweden.

Augustana College is a natural location for such a center. The College is located in the heart of the Midwest, readily accessible to areas with large populations of Swedish descent. It is the oldest college in America founded by Swedish immigrants and has since its earliest days gathered important Swedish-American collections, which now form the basis of the Center's holdings. These include the Swedish-American newspaper collection, the largest of its kind in the world.

The Center extends its collection development to all sectors of the Swedish-American community, irrespective of geography or religious affiliation. Since its inception it has sought to be a major archival repository for the records and papers of Swedish-American organizations, institutions and individuals. The Center's library holdings are rich in general immigration studies, settlement histories, immigrant literature and arts, records of Swedish travels and travelers in the Americas, Swedish-American biography and genealogy, as well as Swedish-American church life and social organizations.

Use and Access

Although a relatively new institution, the Center is visited by persons from all walks of life and from all parts of the country. By virtue of its microfilmed records of Swedish-American churches and the columns of the Swedish-American press, the Center has become a "Mecca" for those researching their family histories or studying the immigrant roots of local communities. For many of these people the resources of the Center prove to be the best resource for gaining answers to questions about Sweden and Swedish America.

The Center is open to the research public on a *reference* basis only, because of the many rare and unique features of its collections. With the exception of the newspaper microfilms, available on interlibrary loan through Augustana College Library, all materials must be consulted on the premises. Copying facilities are available (from microfilm and hardcopy) for

material that is not restricted. Subject to the decision of the staff, limited photocopy requests will be accepted from interlibrary loan patrons.

Academic researchers from Swedish and American universities, as well as researchers from other American institutions, often consult the Center's library and archives in preparing doctoral dissertations and new publications. Augustana College faculty and students often turn to the Center for aid in the preparation of journal articles or academic term papers, while local newspaper reporters and even some grade school students find inspiration for a background story or in-class report on Swedish immigrant life and culture.

General outreach to the public is a daily task of the Center's staff. Close contacts are maintained with members of the immediate community, including a corps of dedicated volunteers; with prospective donors of library and archival material; with regional historical and genealogical societies; with professional groups and organizations; with libraries and archives devoted to the preservation and documentation of the Swedish immigrant heritage; with Augustana College faculty members and campus organizations; as well as with the columns of Swedish-American newspapers and organizational journals.

Persons desiring information and assistance with regard to family history or genealogy are encouraged to contact the Center's Researcher-Secretary. Those wishing to undertake other lines of research are encouraged to contact the Center's Archivist. Where questions cannot be answered, the staff is prepared to refer patrons to other libraries and archives, both in the United States and Sweden. Due to the limitations of time alone, the staff cannot accept requests for lengthy translations from Swedish to English.

Collecting and Cataloging

Books, periodicals, newspapers and original manuscript collections constitute the backbone of the Center's resources and continue to grow in volume. A two-year microfilming project carried out by Lennart Setterdahl is currently adding a wealth of new documentation on the immigrant generations, their descendants and their institutions from all sectors of the country. When completed, this project will give the Center a unique collection of Swedish-American church records, representing congregations of originally Swedish denominations: Lutheran, Baptist, Mission Covenant, Methodist and Evangelical Free. A substantial array of data on Swedish-American cultural, fraternal, and benevolent organizations will also be available.

Current and retrospective cataloging of the Center's books, serials and periodicals is carried out in collaboration with the College Library, which utilizes OCLC terminals for bibliographic input and on-line searching. Subject classification incorporates both the Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress systems. At present the Center's card catalogs for printed materials provide access to main entries and shelf listings; basic *subject* access is

through the main card catalog, housed on the 2nd floor of the College Library. A combination of card catalogs, special indexes, accession records and unpublished inventories provide access to manuscript collections, maps, subject files, genealogical data, and otherwise uncataloged items. Complementing this bibliographic control are two recent publications, each of which addresses major components of the Center's collections:

Lilly Setterdahl, comp., *Swedish-American Newspapers*. A guide to the microfilms held by the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. Augustana Library Publications, No. 35. Rock Island: Augustana College Library, 1981.

Guide to Swedish-American Archival and Manuscript Sources in the United States. Chicago: Swedish-American Historical Society, 1983. This work lists the majority of the Center's church and organizational record collections as well as all personal manuscript collections received up to September, 1982. Nearly 1/3 of the *Guide's* listings fall under the Center heading, and 1/2 of the *Guide* contains repository listings for the State of Illinois.

Resources

I. Book Collections

Immigration Collection, around 2,000 catalogued volumes, was established as a special subject collection in the 1960s by Augustana College Library and is currently maintained by the Center as a major collection of printed source materials on Swedish immigration to North America and Swedish-American culture. Special concentration and emphases include: Swedish-American bibliography; background perspectives on Swedish and Scandinavian emigration; histories of Swedish settlements in the US and Canada; histories and publications of Swedish-American organizations and institutions; Swedish-American literature; Swedish-American publishing; Swedish-American fine arts and music; Swedish travelers and visitors on the North American continent; Swedish-American biography and family history; Swedish-American religious life, including denominational histories as well as anniversary booklets for many individual congregations.

O.A. Linder Collection, of about 600 volumes was donated to the Library in the late 1930s by Oliver A. Linder, a former editor of the Swedish-American weekly, *Svenska Amerikanaren* (Chicago). It complements the Immigration Collection by its holding of Swedish-American literature, general Swedish-American history, Swedish-American fine arts, Swedish-American journalism and press history, as well as Swedish-American religious life.

G.N. Swan Collection, of about 6,000 volumes was donated to the Library in the late 1920s by Gustav N. Swan, a key figure in Swedish-American cultural and literary circles. Besides involvement in local business interests and responsibilities to Augustana College and the Augustana Synod, Swan served as Swedish vice consul for Sweden and Norway (1899-1905) and for

Sweden (1905–1929) in Sioux City, Iowa. Emphases of this collection include bibliophilic rarities; general Swedish and Scandinavian literature up to the 1930s; Swedish literature in translation (English and other languages), particularly works of Tegnér; foreign literature classics, especially Shakespeare and Dante; general history and travel descriptions; biography and genealogy; church history and history of religions; and some Swedish-Americana.

Scandinaviana Collection, around 750 volumes, a “hybrid” collection of books and some serial publications from older sections of the College Library dealing generally with background conditions and features of the Scandinavian countries, particularly Sweden. Subject matter includes history, topography and local history, education, national literatures and fine arts, church history and religion.

II. *Periodicals*

All four of the above collections contain periodical and serial publications, but those *currently* received are basically incorporated into the Immigration Collection.

At present the Center subscribes to 20 periodicals in the fields of immigration history, Swedish-American cultural organizations, genealogy, and the professions of librarianship and archives. Other, smaller publications from Swedish-American organizations are filed in special subject files. The Immigration Collection also contains the bulk of now defunct periodicals relating to general Swedish-American cultural and literary enterprises as well as significant journals and annuals of Swedish-American churches and organizations. The Center is a subscriber to three *currently* published Swedish-American biweeklies and one weekly newspaper, as well as one Swedish-Canadian monthly, one Swedish-Finnish monthly and one Swedish news digest (*Sverige-Nytt*).

The Center has many quarterlies and monthlies published in the United States or Sweden, mostly from the late 1800s and early 1900s, the majority in the original, with a few on microfilm. Many are denominational, including papers published by individual congregations; papers for young people and children; missionary journals; Sunday School papers; and Swedish-American and Scandinavian-American family magazines.

III. *Microfilms*

1. *Swedish-American Newspapers*: Currently 1,540 reels of microfilmed newspapers published in 21 states and Canada. A guide is available, as noted above.

2. *Swedish-American Church Records*: Nearly 2,000 reels of microfilm containing minutes, membership records and ministerial acts for most congregations of all major denominations founded by Swedes in the United States and Canada. These records include a few Norwegian, Danish and Finnish immigrants. The denominations represented are: former Augustana Lutheran

churches (now Lutheran Church in America); The Evangelical Covenant Church; Swedish Baptist General Conference; former Swedish Methodist churches; Evangelical Free Church; American Lutheran Church (3 originally Swedish in Iowa); St. Ansgarius Episcopal Church (Chicago); Bishop Hill Colony Church and Church on the Hill (Adventist), Bishop Hill, IL; also some conference and district records.

3. *Swedish-American Organizations*: A growing collection of microfilms containing records of the Independent Order of Svithiod, Independent Order of Good Templars, Independent Order of Vikings, Scandinavian Fraternity of America, and the Swedish Cultural Society. Also included are records of music and singing societies, provincial clubs, religious organizations, occupational clubs, athletic associations, hospitals, old people's homes, children's homes, educational institutions, insurance and land companies, as well as businesses founded by Swedes.

4. *Bishop Hill Colony and Post Colony Papers*: 13 reels comprising materials held by other depositories in Illinois or in private hands pertaining to the history of the Bishop Hill Colony and the Bishop Hill community.

5. *Personal Papers*. Some significant manuscript collections have been microfilmed in the past and deserve special mention. In some cases the original manuscripts are held by other institutions. Included here are the personal and professional papers of Augustana College presidents T.N. Hasselquist and Olof Olsson; the papers of Augustana Synod pastor and pioneer Chicago churchman Erland Carlsson; correspondence between Swedish-American authors and journalists J.G.R. Banér and J.O. Viking; papers of former Augustana professor Josua Lindahl; and the diary of the early Chicago Swede, Olof Gottfrid Lange. The personal and professional papers of Lars Paul Esbjörn, pioneer Augustana Synod pastor as well as founder and first president of Augustana College, are partially microfilmed. The entire collection, which includes papers and memorabilia for members of the Esbjörn family, is being prepared for microfilming at a later date. Recent additions to the Center's holdings of microfilmed manuscripts include private letter collections and diaries for J.O. Lindh, Hans Rask, Axel Berg, Olof Liljegren and Eric Norelius.

6. *Passenger Indexes*: 27 reels of microfilmed embarkation records (name indexes) from the Swedish ports of Göteborg (1869–1893) and Malmö (1874–1891). The Göteborg material includes data on Finnish emigrants for the years 1869–1884.

IV. *Manuscripts*

At present the manuscript holdings have an extent of some 120 linear feet; they are organized into two basic categories, a) personal or family-related documents; b) organizational and institutional records. Included are a wide range of individual and family papers, diaries and journals, literary

manuscripts and the like, all representative of early Swedish settlers, clergy and laymen, business people and educators, as well as what might be termed the common stream of Swedish immigrant life. Although the main geographical concentration is the Midwest and Great Plains, there are materials of relevance to Swedes on the East and West Coasts. The more prominent collections are the following:

A. Personal Papers

1. *G.N. Swan* (1856–1938): at present 90 boxes of personal and professional papers of significance for study of Swedish-American literature and press history, Swedish-American cultural organizations and individual biographies.
2. *O.A. Linder* (1862–1939): 24 boxes of general clippings and obituary files as well as manuscripts for newspaper articles concerning all aspects of Swedish-American life and culture. All material has been indexed on cards, ca. 17,000 author/title/subject entries.
3. *Eric Norelius* (1833–1916): 16 boxes of indexed correspondence and papers from his years as an early Augustana Synod pastor and as synod president. A key collection to understanding the beginnings of Swedish Lutheranism in the United States and the Minnesota Conference of the Augustana Synod.
4. *Erland Carlsson* (1822–1893): 10 boxes of correspondence and papers relating to his years as a pioneer Augustana Synod pastor (Chicago and Andover), synod president and college administrator.
5. *Samuel Magnus Hill* (1851–1921): 6 boxes of personal, business and literary papers relating to his work as Lutheran missionary, educator, and college president (Luther College, Wahoo, NE), songwriter and poet. Of significance for study of Lutheran missions among Utah Swedes.
6. *John Olof Viking* (1874–1947): 4 boxes and 7 volumes of correspondence and clippings relating to his literary career and studies of American Indian languages and folklore. Of importance for research into Swedish-American literature and the poetry of such individuals as Johan Gustav Runesköld Banér, Viking's friend.
7. *Oscar W. Anderson* (1863–1900): 1 box of literary notebooks, autobiographical accounts and scrapbook materials relating to the career of this Swedish American journalist who served as editor of *Vårt Land* (Jamestown, New York) in 1892–1894.
8. *Arthur Helge Swan* (1885–1916): 29 boxes of personal papers and literary manuscripts of the only child of Gustav N. Swan, whose aspiring career as a playwright and drama critic was snuffed out before its time. Of importance for students of the American and European theater around the turn of the century.

9. *Philip John Stoneberg* (1875–1919): 3 boxes of correspondence, personal papers, literary manuscripts and documentary material largely relating to the settlement and colonists of Bishop Hill, Illinois. This collection is also available on microfilm, as part of the 13 reel collection of Bishop Hill Colony and Post-Colony Papers.

10. *Birger Swenson* (1895–): 12 boxes of personal and professional papers relating to his career as a Lutheran layman and civic leader but primarily his general managership of the Augustana Book Concern up to 1963. Dr. Swenson and his wife, Lyal, are the founders of the Center.

11. *Ernst Wilhelm Olson* (1870–1958): 4 boxes of personal and professional papers of this Swedish-American journalist, author, poet and hymn writer, who served as editor for the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Company in Chicago and the Augustana Book Concern in Rock Island.

12. *Johan Edvard Liljeholm* (1823–1887): a handwritten volume of reminiscences from the travels of a Swedish bookkeeper in America during the early westward migration, 1846–1850. Of importance to research of the Bishop Hill Colony's earliest years.

13. *Ernst Teofil Skarstedt* (1857–1929): 42 volumes of scrapbooks documenting the writings, thoughts, tastes and opinions of this key figure in Swedish-American journalism and literary circles. Included here are scrapbook collections of articles, pictures and engravings that Skarstedt assembled for his own pleasure or edification.

14. *Sven T. Olson* (1838–1911) and family: 3 boxes containing a total of 70 folders of correspondence between members of this Swedish immigrant family from Blekinge province in Sweden. A good source of documentation on the westward movement from states such as Illinois to Kansas and Nebraska.

B. Organizational and Institutional records

Some of the more prominent organizational record collections are the following:

1. *Nytta och Nöje Sällskap*, Rock Island, IL. 3 boxes of papers and records, dating from 1900, of one of the oldest and still existing cultural societies for Swedes at or around Augustana College.

2. *Scandinavian Temperance Union*, Moline, IL. 1 box of minutes, correspondence and other papers relating to the organization's temperance campaign in the Quad Cities area between 1914 and 1922 (formed by five different churches in Moline and Rock Island).

3. *St. Ansgar Academy*, Carver, MN. A small collection of material for the years 1860–1865 (annual reports and the will of a student-turned Union soldier) from the predecessor of Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN.

4. *Svenska Litteratursällskapet*, Moline, IL. 1 box of correspondence and minutes, 1928–1960, for this literary discussion group and reading circle.
5. *Swedish Colonization Society*, Rock Island, IL. 1 volume of minutes, 1884–1888, for stockholders and Board of Directors of this society, chartered under the laws of the state of Iowa for the purpose of purchasing tracts of land for sale to Swedish immigrants.
6. *Augustana Book Concern*, Rock Island, IL. 2 boxes of file photographs of Augustana Synod institutions, all used for the purpose of illustrating publications of the ABC. Filed with these are scrapbook compilations of Swedish and English-language tracts issued by the ABC during the early years of this century.
7. *Adelphia College*, Seattle, WA. An undated collection of three manuscript histories of the College and its faculty members by various individuals. The College had been started by Swedish Baptists in 1905, but was forced to close in 1918.

V. Maps

The Center is the repository for the Thorsten Hanson Collection of Swedish topographical maps, donated to Augustana College in the 1970s. Produced by the General Map Agency of Sweden (*Rikets allmänna kartverk*), these detailed maps show individual farms and homesteads and cover nearly all settled areas of Sweden. In 1982 the Center purchased additional and updated map sheets to complete this standing collection. Maps such as these help to locate and visualize the areas, villages and farms from which Swedish immigrants left for America. Maps of the parishes of the Church of Sweden are also available. These are often of considerable help in locating parish boundaries.

VI. Source Material for Family History and Genealogy.

The primary sources are the extensive microfilm copies of Swedish-American church and society records, as well as the passenger indexes listed above. In addition, biographical articles and obituaries can be found in such church annuals as *Korsbaneret* (Augustana Lutheran Church), 1880–1950, with cumulative indexes in 1929 and 1950; *My Church* (Augustana Lutheran Church), 1915–1946; and *Vinterrosor* (Swedish Methodist), 1903–1931. Equivalent material can be found in the O.A. Linder clipping files, which include a special obituary segment for the years 1941–1947 (most material from *Svenska Amerikanaren-Tribunen*, Chicago).

Also available are a register of parishes of the Church of Sweden with current names and addresses; photocopies of some Illinois cemetery records; files of indexed biographical documents; as well as family histories and genealogies.

It is hoped that a complete biographical index of all publications of the former Augustana Lutheran Church can be added soon.

VI. *Photographs*

Photographs currently received as part of manuscript collections or distinct creator units are left intact. Prior to the formation of the Center a special photograph collection had been established under the name of "Scandinavian-American Portraits." This is a fully name-indexed collection of photographic prints and printed photographs relating to Swedish immigration, Augustana College, pastors of the Augustana Synod, and various professional people in what was once known as Swedish America.

Family Research Guidelines

If you are doing Swedish-American family research; it would be to your advantage to collect as much information as possible before contacting us:

- 1) Talk to older relatives. Ask them where the immigrants' children were baptized and confirmed (denomination and location of church).
- 2) Search for old letters and other documents from Sweden. Look for flyleaf notations in family Bibles and name and place of studio on portraits.
- 3) If possible, obtain copies of naturalization records, marriage licenses, deeds, and death certificates (in county courthouses), census records and city directories (inquire at local library). The documents will provide you with your ancestors' addresses which can help you determine which church they might have belonged to. A pastor's name on an official church document is also helpful.

The place of birth in Sweden, or place of emigration, are the only aspects of your search, where the Center can be of service. When you have assembled your records, we would appreciate a copy of your family tree. Please remember to list the immigrants' place of birth, year of emigration, date and place of marriage, name and data of spouse, place of settlement, number of children, and place and date of death. Your family history will be part of the permanent collection and the Swedish immigrants will be registered for future generations.

The Center is located in the Denkmann Memorial Library of Augustana College, 3520 Seventh Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201. The mailing address is c/o Augustana College, Box 175, College Center, Rock Island, IL 61201. The Researcher-Secretary can be reached by telephone at (309) 794-7204 and the Archivist-Librarian at (309) 794-7221. The Center is open to the general public from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every day, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. There may be some restricted hours during school vacation periods.

The acting director at the present time is Dr. Joel Lundeen; the Researcher-Secretary is Lilly Setterdahl and the Archivist-Librarian is Kermit Westerberg.

Olof Bäck and the Hertman Family

Erik Wikén*

John E. Norton has furnished a great many important details concerning Olof Bäck,¹ which here will be the subject of further study, partly in order to add new material and partly correct certain misunderstandings.

Olof Bäck was born in Folkesbacka, Sundborn Parish (Kopp.) 12 Oct. 1792, the son of Anders Jonsson, an iron puddler, and Brita Olsdotter. He moved to Hälsingland in 1811 and married there Sigrid Hertman, born in Norrbor, Bollnäs Parish (Gävl.) 9 Sept. 1787, the daughter of Jonas Hertman, a farmer, and Lisa Jansdotter. She, but not her husband, was a follower of the sect leader, Erik Jansson. Bäck did not accompany his wife when she left for America aboard the *Wilhelmina*, arriving in New York 21 Sept. 1846.²

The following year Olof Bäck followed his wife to America, without taking out the necessary exit permit. According to a notation in the Bollnäs parish records Bäck had not intended to settle permanently in the U.S. Supposedly he only wished to convince his wife to leave Erik Jansson and his movement. He says in the letter to Esbjörn, dated 27 Dec. 1848 and translated by Norton, that "if I had not had my unhappy deceived wife with them (i. e. the Janssonists) here, I would never have come to America".³ He received a passport in Gävle 21 June 1847 and in the letter mentioned above he mentions that the last time he had partaken of Holy Communion was in New York 15 Sept. 1847.⁴ This fact makes it possible to identify him as the H. Beck, 50 years old, cabinetmaker, who arrived in New York 13 Sept. 1847 aboard the *Norden*,⁵ even though the name and age are at variance with the facts. This, however, is nothing unusual, since the manifests often are laden with garbles and bits of misinformation.

In addition to the letter referred to by Norton, we have a long and interesting letter from Bäck, dated Victoria, IL 15 May 1848 and published in full in the 31 March and 3 April 1849 editions of the newspaper *Norrlands-Posten*.⁶ Here follows a translation of the letter:

* Erik Wikén, c/o Knudtzon, Maltesholmsvägen 163, 162 37 Vällingby, Sweden, is a regular contributor to SAG.

“My Beloved and Dear Friend Pehr Larsson⁷ or Innkeeper and other honorable and dear Swedish friends. The Lord in the Heavens bless you and keep you and protect my Dearly Beloved Country, Sweden, and all of its citizens!

Now the time has come when I can keep the promise made to you and others, to tell you of my personal condition and that of this country. My journey to New York you already know about. I wrote about this immediately after arriving and sent it with a skipper, bound for Göteborg. The journey from New York to the West also went well, except that we were forced in Albany, NY to pay higher freight rates, than had been contracted for in New York, i.e. five dollars more for the total load of 1,300 lbs. One can only bring along 100 lbs. free of charge on the same ticket as the passenger's, which was \$7.50. For every 100 lbs. over the free amount of baggage the fee was \$1.50 per 100 lbs., but in Albany they charged \$2.00 from New York to Chicago, where we went ashore. Between these two destinations there were several changes; from New York to Albany by steamer took eight hours and from Albany to Buffalo by railway and canal boats, pulled by two or three horses night and day. The railway journey took two days, the canal journey nine. From Buffalo to Chicago we went by steamship, which took five days.

There we hired a farmer for \$20.00 who with a wagon, pulled by three horses, took us to the western parts. It took four days to make the trip to his home, located four miles west of Lafayette, IL, where Calle from Dalabacken in Röste Parish (Gävl.)⁸ had settled and where he now resides. I stayed there for three days, after which I left for Victoria, IL, where I met some Swedes who had left the Erik Jansson sect. I stayed in Victoria two weeks and then left for Andover, IL, where I stayed with a farmer from Helsingborg,⁹ Sweden. Here I remained six weeks.

Here were also Swedes who had left Bishop Hill. There were more than 20 of these people in Galesburg, Lafayette, Victoria and Andover. Swedes who escaped from the colony have come to these four places. These places are located 10, 12 and 20 miles from Jansson. I have even been to visit Jansson four times and have seen that hellish place. He and his followers lie both spiritually as well as in practice. The residents have given new names to their settlements, now calling them Sodom and Gomorrah. Thus Jansson and his ilk have Sodom and Gomorrah to themselves. He has not fled, as it was rumored, he owns everything (in Bishop Hill) in his name. The rest of the colony, consisting of 400 souls, are all his slaves. He has taken their money, their clothes and all other property with his damned tactics, so that they go about as if condemned to death. Jansson is a wealthy man. He owns 30 team of horses, 20 team of oxen, 300 cows, 390 sheep, 400 slaves, a judge, a bookkeeper, laborers, foresters and twelve apostles. Of all those who came with him, only 300 are still alive. One hundred of them have left him for other places. He has more than 500 pigs, chickens, geese, ducks and turkeys, the number of which is high. Since I arrived here last fall, it appears that he is quite wealthy. He sent several loads of wheat to Rock Island and Peoria, both being ports in Illinois, and despite this, the people two months ago had to consume the bread and porridge of despair — nothing but corn and potatoes. Despite this, the people have worked

the entire winter threshing for him and the American, and these have made much profit from the wheat. He (i.e. the American) has bought a threshing machine, which is moved from farm to farm, being pulled by four horses and threshes at least 150 bushels per day and he takes every eighth bushel for his work. Even so, the people have to subsist on this despicable food. They even have to buy their own corn, which the Americans use for cattle feed. From this diet the people suffer from diarrhea, followed by all sorts of illnesses and much other misery. When a person becomes seriously ill, he (i.e. Jansson) will say: "you are damned, because you do not have the faith to believe that you are well. You must go to hell because of your unbelief." With this pronouncement he orders them to work, until they fall down dead, whereupon he gives them the last command; "You shall be cast down into hell for your damned unbelief." This takes the place of the ordinary funeral.

All types of illnesses and misery have come to these people. All of the damnation, suffering and hardship, which Jansson has asked for has emanated from him and has been concentrated on him and his people, but not upon us. One single person has died here, a woman who was seriously ill when she left the Jansson colony one night. She collapsed on the prairie.

Prairies are the immense flatlands located here. I can truthfully say that there are many prairie areas which contain as much as 10, 15 and 20 square miles, without having as much as a single bush. These plains are on a high elevation. The forests are to be found in the valleys, which are located at a lower altitude. In many places there is a lack of trees, but here and around Victoria there is no scarcity of trees, nor prairieland. The land is covered with grass everywhere. There is no moss, nor any stony soil, only wonderful black soil. This abounds everywhere and brings forth almost anything one wishes to grow. Even a type of fern grows here in greatest profusion, which is difficult to believe. The types of grain that grow here are corn, wheat, rye, barley, oats, peas and many types of beans, three types of cabbage, parsnips, turnips and several kinds of potatoes. Much fruit grows here. Apples, pears, plums are to be found in great quantities, as well as six kinds of nuts in the forests. Pine and hemlock do not grow here, neither birch nor mountain ash, and not evergreens, except the cedar, which can be likened to the juniper tree in Sweden. It is the largest tree to be found here and grows the straightest and is always green in its beautiful appearance.

The plains are covered this spring with a myriad of grasses and many flowers, so that the ground appears like a young bride. The wheat looks good and is already above ground, so that if the weather holds, we should have a good crop. Corn has just been planted, but rye and barley are seldom sown, but can be found here and there and also looks good. The flax has not appeared as yet. Here the people sow flax only for the seed, which they then sell. They do not bother with the plant, which we can use and process as much as we wish. The farmer only cares for the seed and the buds.

Now I should like to tell you something about my present condition. It was quite difficult in the beginning to understand the language, and this difficulty persists. I now see that if I had not been together with so many Swedes, I would have fared better with the language.

But there are Swedes here, almost everywhere, as well as Norwegians and Danes, who understand each other well. But it is much better to deal with the natives.

Last winter I spent much time travelling, in order to study the country, since here in the west, there is no snow to hinder movement. A little snow fell here just before and immediately after the Christmas holidays, but was little more than a dusting, which soon disappeared. The autumn began with the frost, at about the same time as in Sweden, but the winter is not quite as cold. It would not be much of a winter, except for the endless prairies, where you well understand, the wind blows, sometimes quite powerfully, creating a low temperature. But it can also rain here from time to time, since the weather is quite changeable, sometimes even during the course of a day.

In the middle of February I bought myself a couple of mares together with a wagon and harness, which cost me \$127.00 and took a trip to Iowa, in order to visit a group of people from Östergötland, who had settled there and to have a look around, about 150 miles from Victoria, to a town named Fairfield. There I turned around, but there were Swedes even farther west, 150 miles away. I met about ten Swedish families who have settled there in the forest together with Mr. Catsel,¹⁰ who had a letter published in *Aftonbladet* a year and a half ago. But they have not done too well, since there is a scarcity of land. Here in Illinois is plenty of room, and the state could take care of the entire population of Sweden. Here in this state, I am sure that more old prairie grass has been burned than all the hay harvested in Sweden. Iowa is for the most part settled and land sells there for more than a third more than in Illinois. There are no older residents in this state than 15 years. Thus you can see that we are all pioneers. The greater part of the people moved here from Pennsylvania, which lies west of New York. Many people from Scotland also dwell here. I have bought land also three miles west of Victoria, a tract of forty acres. This tract is enough for me. The soil is rich and extends downward for about two feet. This spring I have erected a house on the land with three rooms and a hall, not quite ready. I have bought lumber and shingles and brought this home, in addition to glass for the windows and iron and fireplace for the chimney.

I will have to make the bricks myself, since most of my money is gone. I have dug a well right next to the wall of the house and found good water eight feet down. Both of the mares have now foaled and this has gone well. I also have about ten hens and a rooster at the present time, but no woman — I have asked my sister-in-law and my brother-in-law from Arbrå Parish¹¹ (Gävle) to stay with me for the time being and they brought two cows and two calves. As yet I have not been able to get my wife to leave Jansson, the deceiver.¹² They are still stubborn, the poor rascals, who dwell with Jansson, but there are a few, whose eyes are being opened. Last week six left the colony to get married, since Jansson forbids marriages. He has ordained twelve apostles, who sneak around the country and preach in order to deceive others; but so far he has not been able to convert a single native, or any other person for that matter. We firmly believe that as time goes on there will be an end to the sect, since they have accomplished so much evil, and their leaders are so full of deceit, worse than the worst bandits in the world. To flatter and deceive is their goal.

They have even tried to invite me several times, but I know them too well.

If anyone is reflecting on coming here, I would recommend this place as the very best. Here is prairie and forest for many, even those who wish to have everything in one place. We can let our cattle graze anywhere on the prairie and they get such good pasturage as your cattle would get in the best meadowland, and yet they are not as well covered with grass as the prairie. The grass is now half as high as it finally will be and the large areas appear as great oceans, with only an occasional house to break the monotony from time to time.

Where I am living there are not the great distances between the farms. They all wish to live near the forest and I have not farther to the forest than I can make two trips with logs between my meals and I chop down the trees myself. Clay is to be found everywhere underneath the black soil, but the clay pots made here are horribly ugly and there is no one here who can make a real tile stove. We could use Mr. S. here rather than you at home and would see that he would have no competition. It would be good if a tobacco manufacturer from Sweden would come here also, since the tobacco here as well as the snuff cannot measure up to the Swedish quality. Yet the price is four times as high here for an inferior product, despite the fact that tobacco grows here wherever you look. What is needed here is a person, who understands the process of preparing the tobacco.

Farmers from Sweden who plan to become farmers here should bring along well-made and well-tried plows. It is really worth while, since a plow here costs about \$10.00 and yet one cannot plow the sod with them. For this purpose they have gigantic machines pulled by from three to six pair of oxen and the cost of having one's land plowed costs more than the land did originally. Forty acres of land costs \$50.00 and to have the land plowed costs \$60.00. You can see by this that it pays to bring over a good plow to work the sod, without the use of so many animals, which we find difficulty buying. We need time to feed cattle ourselves, since here one can feed as many as one wishes and has the means to buy. There is no lack of hay. One can get as much as one can cut and even so burn a thousand times what one needs for fodder for the cattle for the winter. The settlers here keep their cattle outdoors the entire winter, and the greater part of them feed themselves. The Swede with whom I stayed in Andover kept his cattle outdoors all winter and many others followed suit.

I forgot to mention that is worthwhile taking along all linens and weavings as well as table cloths and napkins. Even Swedish woolen cloth is prized here and pays well. The women who travel to America should not buy hats before arriving here. The prices are cheaper and the quality better. Everyone here is dressed like the upper classes in Sweden and all are equal. Everyone says "you" (*du*) to each other and I have done likewise. Craftsmen are called "mister" here when one wishes to be courteous, and that is most of the time.

Don't take tools with you nor cotton goods, neither coarse cloths and homespuns. Such things are not used here. We don't slave here as in Sweden. We feed ourselves with wheat bread and work half as hard. All use coffee daily and I can earn as much as the equivalent of ten pounds per day and my particular craft is the poorest paying of all. The blacksmith does best here, followed by the tailor and the

shoemaker. The former can earn up to \$2.00 per day and the latter one dollar per day. I cannot count on any steady pay. Much carpenter work is done by steam machinery, so that doors and windows are manufactured, as well as such items as dressers and bureaus. The prices are lower because the manufacturers can produce them cheaper than I and I don't get any more than if I worked at one of these plants.

But enough of this. I and the others can with ease earn our living and have a little left over. Six bushels make a barrel of grain. They don't use any larger measure than the bushel. All workers here get good food and a bushel of wheat per day or roughly 50 cents, but they prefer to pay in kind — thus one receives either 25 lbs. of wheat or 25 lbs. of pork for one day's work. Per Larsson, if anyone is planning on coming over, please have him bring me a plow, well-made and trimmed. They can pay for it and I will reimburse them here. I am now tired of having to write any more but will send you a thousand greetings. I would like to have as many as I have greeted read the entire letter. Signed by your friend's own hand in Victoria 15 May 1848.

O. Bäck

Former sheriff in Bollnäs

P.S. A servant girl here receives a dollar per week and a male servant two and they welcome Swedes, particularly women. In Sweden we used to say: 'I cannot afford to feed you butter and wheat bread, but here I can surely promise it'. If I only had a woman, who could tend my cows, I would be satisfied. J. H. Lisa,¹³ whom I paid for, has gone with Jansson, thus I have nothing for my trouble. Write and tell me how you have it and if anyone is coming over and how soon he will come. Letters can be sent via packet steamer from Stockholm via the shipping brokers at Skeppsbron''.

A letter from Olof Bäck's sister-in-law, Lisa Jonsdotter Hertman, is dated Victoria, IL 12 Jan. 1850 and was published in the Swedish newspaper *Helsi* 5 July 1850 and is quoted here in translation:

"I have not sent a letter to my native parish since I arrived in America. I did not wish to write until I could inform you that we now have acquired a house, by the Grace of God. We arrived here at Bishop Hill in 1846, but stayed only four days. Erik Jansson is not what he was in Sweden. He is a deceiver, who still is holding several hundred people in chains, both spiritually and physically. From Bishop Hill we moved to Victoria and stayed with a German family for eight months, where we acquired two cows. From that place we moved to Olof Bäck, who hails from Bollnäs. We stayed with him until we could move into our own home, which happened last 4 July, located close to the Bäck house. We have bought five acres of land from an American named Light for \$3.00 per acre. Government land sells for \$1.25 an acre. We arrived at Bishop Hill without any means. Now we owe nobody, own a nice home, have fenced our property and have begun planting our small farm. We now own a cow, a heifer and nine chickens. We look forward to a good harvest next summer. Wheat yields 20- to 30-fold, corn more than 100-fold. We live near the forest, where we get our firewood. Coal can be found in great quantities on government land and we may get it without paying for it. There are large plains here called prairies, where much hay is to be

found, and which we can use as much as we need. If we had the means to buy a horse, we would not have to worry about feed. This is a wonderful country, richly blessed by God.

He who wishes to work and is able, can here find a good living and be able to look toward a bright future. My husband has been earning a dollar a day during the summer months and a female servant can count on earning 4 to 5 dollars per month. An unskilled worker can earn twice as much. In the physical sense we live very well and have everything we need. We have good well water near our house. We eat well daily, as much as we need, good wheat bread, coffee, pork, meat, etc. The cattle are let out in the morning to graze on the wide prairies and return in the evening of their own choice. The soil is easily worked, free of rocks and very rich. Food can be bought at low prices. A pound of the best quality wheat flour sells for two cents, the lesser quality sells for a penny a pound. Those who move here can count on coming to the land of Canaan.

When we came here and dwelled with the German family we were allowed to harvest as much as we wanted of the flax grown here. They sow flax only for the linseed they harvest. All hay not harvested in the summer is burned in the fall of the year.

My niece Lisa,¹⁴ who arrived here with Bäck, stayed first in Galesburg, a city located about 18 miles from here, for the first three months, then went to Bishop Hill, where she remained three months, and finally came to Lafayette. There she became ill and died from a bad fever after three weeks of illness. Two weeks before her death I visited her and I trust that she reached the right homeland. If she had lived she would now have been married to a man from Alfta Parish, who was a good man, but she was privileged instead to attend the heavenly wedding feast. There she can sing the praises of the Lord and the Lamb forever.

Greet Olof Olsson in Flestad¹⁵ and his family. If they have the desire to move here, they can expect a promising future. Peter and I do not wish to return to Sweden. We thank God, who helped us come here, and we wish all of our countrymen and friends the same benefits which have come to us. There are no taxes here except for the levy of two cents per acre annually. In addition the Americans are a good and honest people.

There is complete freedom of religion here. Everyone can worship as he pleases, privately or publicly, without fear of persecution. Pastor Hedström¹⁶, who has been in charge of the parish here for several years, has been a good friend and a father to us all. In addition, two clergymen arrived here last fall — Pastor Esbjörn¹⁷ and Pastor Agrelius.¹⁸ The first named lives in Andover, the latter at the Bäck house. Agrelius plans to move to Wisconsin next spring.

I wish you would forward the enclosed letter to Jonas Harpman.¹⁹ Let him as well as others read this letter. I pray to God that he might bless you to body and soul, and if you do not wish to move here, I hope that we might see each other in another and better world”.

In addition to the above mentioned members of the Hertman clan — i.e. Sigrid Bäck, the wife of Olof, who arrived in 1846; the sister-in-law Lisa, who arrived in 1846 and the daughter-in-law Lisa, who arrived in 1847, the

latter's father, Jonas Hertman, Jr., emigrated together with his entire family. They left Bollnäs in 1850, received passports in Gävle 14 June and arrived in New York aboard the *Sophie* 19 August 1850.²⁰

During the spring of 1849 two persons were sent from Bishop Hill to Sweden to supervise the transfer to the U.S. of certain inheritances, which were due Swedish emigrants who had departed for America. These inheritances stemmed mostly from those persons who had perished in the sinking of the *Betty Catharina* at the end of 1846 or the beginning of 1847 or from those emigrants who had died of cholera in the U.S. These individuals were Olof Jonsson from Vedtjärä in Söderala Parish²¹ (Gävl.) and Olof Jonsson Stenberg (Stoneberg), also known as "Olle i Stenbo".²² Bäck sent a letter to Sweden, dated Victoria, IL 16 Jan. 1850, in which he warned against the two collectors attempting to appropriate these inheritances. His letter was published in the newspaper *Helsi* 26 April 1850. Despite the warnings of Bäck and others, the two visitors managed to scrape together \$6,000.

In July of 1851 Bäck was back in Sweden. According to information contained in *Helsi* on 18 July 1851 he wished to spread the news of the pitiful conditions of the Swedish emigrants in America (ostensibly the lot of the Erik Janssonists) and had intended upon the recommendation of the Swedish Norwegian consul general in New York²³ to write a book about them. Nothing seems to have come from this idea. About a year later Bäck headed a group of 114 emigrants from Hälsingland,²⁴ who emigrated aboard the *Maria*, which departed from Gävle and arrived in New York 14 Oct. 1852.

Johnson and Peterson mention "Old man Bäck from Bollnäs" as a "most excentric person" in Copley Township, where he was considered to be the "most important person in his community".²⁶

Thus ends the information we have so far on the fate of Olof Bäck.

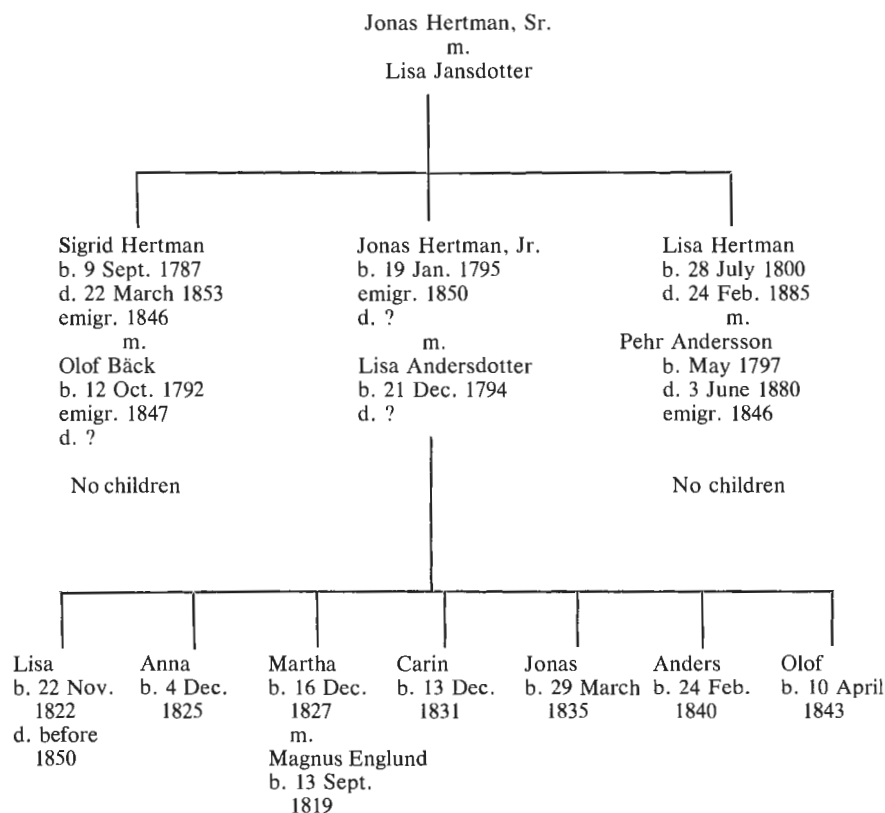
¹ John E. Norton, "' . . . We have Such a Great Need of a Teacher': Olof Bäck, Bishop Hill, and the Andover Settlement of Lars Paul Esbjörn" in *The Swedish Pioneer Historical Quarterly* (now *The Swedish-American Historical Quarterly*) (SPHQ), Vol. XXVI, pp. 215-220.

² Nils William Olsson, *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in New York 1820-1850* (Stockholm and Chicago, 1967) (SPANY), p. 101, note 14; Nils William Olsson, *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in U.S. Ports 1820-1850 (Except New York)* (Stockholm and St. Paul, MN 1979) (SPAexc NY), p. 94.

³ SPHQ, Vol. XXVI, p. 218. Another letter, dated 18 Feb. 1848, which Norton (see p. 220, note 2) ascribed to Bäck, was not written by him, but by Carl Hård.

- ⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 220.
- ⁵ *SPANY*, p. 148. *Norden* departed from Stockholm, according to Swedish maritime sources, not Leghorn.
- ⁶ Earlier, a brief resume of the letter had been published in the newspaper *Helsi* 10 Nov. 1848.
- ⁷ The addressee was Pehr Larsson, an innkeeper in Bollnäs.
- ⁸ For additional information on Carl Abraham Brobäck, see *SPANY*, p. 147, note 18.
- ⁹ Unidentified.
- ¹⁰ Peter Cassel, founder of the first Swedish settlement in Iowa. For further information concerning him, see *SPANY*, pp. 64–65.
- ¹¹ Bäck's sister-in-law was Lisa Jonsdotter Hertman, b. in Norrbor, Bollnäs Parish (Gävl.) 28 July 1800, dau. Jonas Hertman, Sr. and Lisa Jansdotter. She was m. to Pehr Andersson, crofter, b. in Flästa, Arbrå Parish (Gävl.) 3 May 1797, s. Anders Nilsson, farmer, and Margareta Ersdotter. They emigrated from Arbrå to America 1846 and received passports in Gävle 5 Oct. 1846. They have not been located on any of the manifests. According to an exit visa made out for Pehr Andersson and his wife in Arbrå 30 Sept. 1846, the clergyman, Johan R. Norelius comments that Pehr Andersson was almost a deaf mute. The couple was accepted as members of the Swedish Methodist Church in Victoria in March 1848. They returned to Arbrå in Sweden 1876, where Pehr Andersson d. 3 June 1880 and his wife 24 Feb. 1885. — *HLA; Victoria Church Register; Stoneberg Collection*. Knox College Library, Knoxville, IL.
- ¹² Apparently Olof Bäck was never reconciled with his wife. She d. in Bishop Hill 22 March 1853. — *Bishop Hill Record Book*, manuscript privately owned.
- ¹³ J. H. Lisa, i.e. "Jonas Hertmans Lisa", in other words, Lisa, b. in Norrbor, Bollnäs Parish 22 Nov. 1822, dau. of Bäck's brother-in-law, Jonas Hertman, Jr. and Lisa Andersdotter. She emigr. to America from Östra Flor, Mo Parish (Gävl.) and received her passport in Gävle 21 June 1847. In examining the microfilm of the *Norden* manifest in the Emigrant Institute in Växjö, the same vessel on which Olof Bäck arrived, and which came to New York 13 Sept. 1847, I found that the very first name on the manifest is that of Eliza Hartman, 24 years old, but without a nationality having been given for her. This must doubtlessly be Lisa Hertman, whose journey to America Olof Bäck had paid for. So far as I can tell this is the first case in which a passenger listed on the manifest without a nationality has proved to be Swedish. This means that we cannot be absolutely certain that other passengers, who might be Swedish, are thus hidden from us by this cloak of anonymity.
- ¹⁴ Lisa Jonsdotter Hertman, referred to in note 13 above.
- ¹⁵ This should be Flästa in Arbrå Parish.
- ¹⁶ Jonas Hedström, who had arrived in New York in 1833, and who became a Methodist clergyman in 1839, established the first Swedish Methodist Church in the Middle West, in Victoria, IL in 1846. For more information on Hedström, see *SPANY*, p. 13.
- ¹⁷ Lars Paul Esbjörn, pioneer Swedish Lutheran clergyman in America, arrived in the U.S. 1849 and founded the Swedish Church in Andover, IL. For more information on Esbjörn, see *SPANY*, p. 189.
- ¹⁸ Carl Peter Agrelius (formerly Hagrelus), a Swedish Lutheran clergyman, who arr. in Boston, MA Oct. 28, 1848 with his family. In the U.S. he turned to Methodism. For further information see *SPAexcNY*, p. 25.
- ¹⁹ Jonas Harpman is doubtlessly identical with the letter writer's brother Jonas Hertman (see note 20 below).

- ²⁰ See *SPANY*, p. 219, note 74 (where the name on the manifest has been garbled as Horsmann). Jonas Hertman, Jr. was b. in Norrbor, Bollnäs Parish 19 Jan. 1795, s. Jonas Hertman, Sr. and Lisa Jansdotter. He was m. to Lisa Andersdotter, b. in Heden, Bollnäs 21 Dec. 1794, dau. Anders Jonsson and Anna Olsdotter. They had, in addition to their dau. Lisa (see note 13 above), the following six children, all b. in Bollnäs — Anna, b. 4 Dec. 1825; Martha, b. 16 Dec. 1827 (she must be identical with Martha Hartman, who was m. 2 Feb. 1851 in Knox Co., IL to Magnus England (Englund), a soldier from Enånger Parish (Gävl.). The marriage was performed by Jonas Hedström); Carin, b. 13 Dec. 1831; Jonas, b. 29 March 1835; Anders, b. 24 Feb. 1840 and Olof, b. 10 April 1843. The relationship among the various members of the Hertman family is as follows:



- ²¹ See *SPANY*, p. 109, note. 69.
- ²² See *SPANY*, p. 245, note 17. Olof Jonsson Stenberg's first emigration cannot be documented in the manifests. This was his second trip to America.
- ²³ Adam Christopher Lövenskiöld served as Swedish Norwegian consul general in New York from 14 Nov. 1845 to 25 Sept. 1850. — Joh. Ax. Almquist, *Kommerskollegium och Rikens ständers manufakturkontor samt konsulsstaten* (Stockholm 1912–1915), p. 566.
- ²⁴ *Kalmarposten* for 14 July 1852.
- ²⁵ Passenger Manifest for New York for 1852, No. 1403 in the National Archives, Record Group 36; *Index of Swedish Emigrants to the U.S. 1851–1860*, manuscript in Göteborg Landsarkiv.
- ²⁶ Eric Johnson and C. F. Peterson, *Svenskarne i Illinois* (Chicago 1880), p. 41.

“Trollhätte Svensson” – a Forgotten Swedish Counterfeiter

Bror Wikström*

This is the story of a notorious Swedish counterfeiter, Carl Svensson, who after having committed several crimes in Sweden, for which he spent considerable time in prison, emigrated to the United States in 1887, never to be heard from again.

There have been rumors that Carl Svensson, popularly nicknamed “Trollhätte Svensson”, because of his escapade in the city of Trollhättan, and who called himself Carl Napoleon Svensson (he added Napoleon to his name, in the baptismal register he is only *Carl*) continued his life as a counterfeiter in America. There are also rumors that, after having been apprehended and sentenced for this crime, he ended his life in a U.S. prison by hanging. These rumors have never been proved, but there is enough mystery surrounding “Trollhätte Svensson”, that anything might be possible.

Carl Svensson was born in the parish of Hudene in the county of Älvsborg in Sweden 14 November 1850, the son of Sven Nilsson (1818–1852) and Johanna Larsdotter (1817–1873). Carl was the youngest of three siblings. Already as a child he demonstrated unmistakably that he had great talent as a mechanic. At the age of 15 he became apprenticed to a clockmaker in Vänersborg, later moving to the city of Borås. It was in the latter city that Carl Svensson was to commit his first crime. He and a friend conspired to remove the large bolts which linked two rail sections of the railway line to Borås and hid themselves nearby in order to learn what would happen when the train passed over the loosened rails. Fortunately a rail inspector happened by, discovered the loose rails, alerted the authorities, thereby averting, what might have been a major train catastrophe. Carl Svensson was apprehended and sentenced to six months in jail, barely fifteen years of age.

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After his release from prison Carl Svensson was employed in several places in Sweden, including Göteborg and Mariestad. In 1870 he arrived in Stockholm, where he secured employment at the shop of a clock manufacturer, Johan Gustaf Wennermark.¹ Svensson was a personable individual, who quickly inspired trust and confidence. He thus was allowed to sleep in the shop, in return for taking care of the boilers and doing the janitorial work.

On 16 December 1870, barely a few months after having arrived in the Swedish capital, Svensson faked a burglary on Wennermark's premises. He was arrested, tried and sentenced to three years of hard labor at Långholmen, Stockholm's most secure prison.

Little is known concerning his activities after his release from prison but by 1876 we find him in the city of Trollhättan, where he secured employment with a clockmaker named J.J. Wennergren. Here he showed himself to be a model employee — industrious, careful about his finances, and carrying out his duties punctiliously. In 1882, however, he found himself in economic straits and it was now that he conceived of the idea of counterfeiting Swedish coins. He rented a small room in a laundry in the city block named "Duvan" along Österlånggatan in Trollhättan (today a large apartment building is to be found on this site). Here Svensson constructed a stamping machine to be used in the manufacturing of parts for clock mechanisms. Under the guise of producing dies for the manufacturing of these clock and watch parts, he was actually processing dies for the striking of Swedish coins in denominations of one *krona*, 50 *öre* and 25 *öre*. Svensson had mastered the electroplating technique according to the Daniell² method, using the acid and reduction idea. He submerged a genuine coin and via the resulting immersion coating of a steel plate (i.e. the die) he got the necessary impression. His bogus coins were cleverly made and difficult to tell from genuine ones. He used his counterfeit coins to buy sheets of copper/nickel alloy at J.F. Lundberg's hardware store in Trollhättan. Soon officials of the local branch of the Vänersborg Bank began noticing that forged one crown pieces were circulating in the city and that they emanated from Lundberg's hardware store. One of the clerks in the hardware store remembered that Svensson always paid for his purchases with "shiny new coins".

The police now took over the case and began shadowing every move by Svensson. When the two policemen assigned to the case, Forsell and Borg, had sufficient evidence that Svensson was their man, they struck and Svensson was arrested on charges of counterfeiting and passing counterfeit coins. This took place on 2 June 1882. After a long trial Carl Svensson was found guilty on both counts and sentenced by the Väne District Court to five years of hard labor at the Central Prison of Malmö.

Five years later, 11 September 1887, Carl Svensson was released from the Malmö prison, at which time he informed the director, Arvid von Metzger,³ that he intended to emigrate to America. At this time he had in his



Carl (Napoleon) Svensson

possession the total sum of 212 *kronor*, which he had earned while serving his sentence. On 11 October 1887 Carl Napoleon Svensson departed from Sweden, destined for New York. That was the last anyone ever heard from him. Except for the rumors alluded to earlier in this account, a curtain of silence descended on “Trollhätte Svensson”.

These are the basic contours of Carl Napoleon Svensson’s life in Sweden. His bogus coins are today collectors’ items, eagerly sought. His one *krona* today commands a price of 1,500 *kronor*, whereas the 50 *öre* piece fetches an even thousand *kronor*.

Svensson did not fit the average idea of a criminal. He was a friendly and trusting individual, who in reality was a very clever watch and clockmaker. It would be of great interest to know more of his life in America. Did he reform and become a useful citizen, perhaps engaged in what he knew best — the making of clocks? Did he marry in his new environment and did he have children? These are questions that crave answers. Any clues as to Carl Napoleon Svensson’s career in the United States would be much appreciated by the author of this modest essay.

¹ As late as 1885, according to a city directory for Stockholm, Johan Gustaf Wennermark, a manufacturer of clocks, had his shop at Kornhamnstorg 47 in the Old City.

² Named for John Frederick Daniell (1790–1845), an English physicist, who first discovered the method of electroplating by means of a galvanic element with electrodes of zinc and copper, the former immersed in sulphuric acid, the latter in a copper sulphate solution. — *Ed.*

³ Arvid Fredrik Wilhelm von Mentzer (1842–1909) became director of the Malmö Central Prison in 1884. — Gustaf Elgenstierna, *Den introducerade svenska adelns ättartavlor* (Stockholm 1925–1936), V, p. 260.

A Swedish Bible Inscription

An unusual Bible inscription came to light recently in Minneapolis, where a Holy Bible, printed in Swedish, was donated to the American Swedish Institute in that city by a descendant of the original owner, Lloyd Svedin, 8349 Riverview Lane, Brooklyn Park, MN 55444.

What makes this particular Bible inscription genealogically valuable is the fact that it contains not only the birth data of the children born in Sweden, but also the names of all of the witnesses at their baptisms. The inscription also contains data on the deaths in the family as well as the date of immigration to Minnesota, which was in 1884.

The inscription is entitled *Family Chronicle* and deals with P. Eriksson from the parish of Sveg in Jämtland County in north central Sweden. When P. Eriksson died in Minnesota in 1911 his name is given as P. Erikson Svedin. Most certainly he assumed the family name of Svedin from his home parish in Sweden. We do not know what the letter P. stands for in his name, but may safely assume that it was Pehr, since his mother's father bore that name. It was the custom in rural Sweden at the time that if two boys were born in the family, the firstborn was named for the paternal grandfather and second one born was named for the maternal grandfather, provided they were dead at the time of the boys' birth. If not, other boys in the family, born after the demise of the grandfathers were given the names in that order.

The inscription is reproduced here as found in the Bible, translated into English. The place names have been normalized to conform with modern Swedish spelling. All the place names listed in this document are names of villages in the parish of Sveg.

Family Chronicle

"P. Eriksson, a farmer in Knätten in Sveg Parish, born Dec. 10, 1830, the son of Erik Ersson and Gertrud Pehrson in Knätten. My wife, Martha Svensdotter, a farmer's daughter from Ytterberg, was born Oct. 5, 1830, the daughter of Sven Jonsson and Gunill Svensdotter in Ytterberg. We were married in the church in Sveg on Palm Sunday, April 5, 1857. Our daughter Gertrud was born March 1, 1858. The witnesses on this occasion were Jöns Svensson and Gunill Persdotter in Ytterberg, Olof Pålsson and Gertrud Mårtensdotter in Överberg, E. Eriksson and Innebor (Ingeborg) Jonsdotter in Knätten, E. Andersson in Sveg and Sigrin Svensdotter in Ytterberg.

Our daughter Gunill was born July 9, 1860. The witnesses were Olof Olofsson and Brita Mickelsdotter in Duvberg, Nils Jönsson and Injebor (Ingeborg) Svensdotter in Ytterberg, Pål Olofsson and Brita Halvarsdotter in Överberg.

Our daughter Karin was born Nov. 11, 1863. The witnesses were Sven Pehrsson and Brita Larsdotter in Ytterberg, Olof Svensson and Karin Olofsdotter in Överberg, Mårten Olofsson in Överberg and Segrin Pehrsson in Ytterberg, Anders Andersson in Glissjöberg and Märet Olofsdotter in Ytterberg.

Our daughter Brita was born April 23, 1866 and the witnesses were Pehr Jonsson and Karin Jonsdotter in Knätten, Mattis Mattsson and Märet Larsdotter in Knätten, Erik Halvarson in Överberg and Karin Ersdotter in Remmet.

Our daughter Karin died Feb. 28, 1868 at the age of four years and three months.

Our son Sven was born Aug. 23, 1869. The witnesses were Jon Jonsson and Brita Andersdotter in Glissjöberg, Halvar Olofsson and Karin Olofsdotter in Duvberg, Erik Eriksson in Remmet and Kerstin Olofsdotter in Duvberg.

Our son Pehr was born Sept. 5, 1872 and the witnesses were Jonas Andersson and Karin Olofsdotter in Mosätt, Nils Sten and Karin Mårtensdotter in Överberg, Jonas Ersson in Remmet and Aurora (?) Hansdotter at the Härje River Bridge.

My mother died at the end of December, 1868, 77 years old and my father died in 1868, 71 years old, only five days after my mother.

We moved to Kittson County, Minnesota in North America in 1884.

Our daughter Gunill (Mrs. Berg) died June 18, 1898, at an age of 37 years and 11 months.

P. Erikson Svedin died May 26, 1911, at an age of 80 years, 5 months and 16 days.

Martha Svedin died Nov. 14, 1924''.

Correction

Through an unfortunate mishap in the bindery the title page for the 1983 volume of *Swedish American Genealogist* and pages 173–176 were transposed in the December 1983 issue. This can be remedied by carefully bending up the points of the staples of the issue, exchanging the two center leaves and replacing them in the proper order and then bending the staples back in their original position.

Ancestor Tables

Ancestor tables will be printed from time to time on a space available basis and for subscribers only. The editor assumes no responsibility for the material submitted and reserves the right to edit the material to conform to a general format.

XIII. Arthur Frederick Norell

(Submitted by his daughter, Beverly Norell Nicholas, 5558 West Donna Drive, Brown Deer, WI 53223).

1. NORELL, Arthur Frederick, b. Madison, WI 13 Jan. 1894; m. 1919; d. Milwaukee, WI 28 April 1964.
- I. 2. NORELL, Frans Olof, b. Hamrånge Parish (Gävl.) 1869; m. Ft. Dodge, IA; 1890; d. Louisville, KY 1922.
3. ISAACSON, Mamie Christine, b. Månson, IA 1872; d. Indianapolis, IN 1939.
- II. 4. NORELL/OLSSON, Olof, b. Norrala Parish (Gävl.) 1843; m. Hamrånge 1868; d. Söderhamn 1909. Resided in Chicago, IL 1880–1907.
5. THORELL, Catharina, b. Hamrånge 1843; d. Hamrånge 1906. Resided in Chicago, IL 1880–1906.
6. ISAACSON/ISAKSSON, Gustaf, b. Liared Parish (Älvs.) 1835; m. Manson, IA 1871; d. Manson 1881; m. (1) Liared Maja Greta Johansdotter, b. Liared; d. Manson ca. 1870.
7. ANDERSDOTTER, Johanna, b. Ödestugu Parish (Jön.) 1844; d. Ft. Dodge 1934.
- III. 8. PERSSON, Olof, b. Norrala 1815; m. 1837; d. Söderhamn 1889.
9. OLSDOTTER, Ingrid, b. Norrala 1814; d. Norrala 1858.
10. THORELL/ERSSON, Eric., b. Hamrånge 1815; m. 1838; d. 1895.
11. CARLSDOTTER, Lena, b. Hille Parish (Gävl.) 1816; d. Hamrånge 1893.
12. JOHANSSON, Isak, b. Liared 1807; m. 1831; d. Liared 1877.
13. ABRAMSDOTTER, Stina, b. Liared 1807; d. Liared 1899.
14. ABRAMSSON, Anders Johan, b. Svenarum Parish (Jön.) 1811; m. Byarum Parish (Jön.) 1839; d. Iowa ca. 1890. Also known as Anders Johnsson and John Andersson.

15. GUSTAFSDOTTER, Stina Catharina, b. Tofteryd Parish (Jön.) 1811; d. Ft. Dodge, IA 1905.
- IV. 16. ERICSSON, Per, b. Norrala 1783; m. Norrala 1810; d. Norrala 1839.
17. OLSDOTTER, Gölin, b. Norrala 1787; d. Norrala 1851.
18. ERICSSON, Olof, b. Norrala 1782; m. Norrala 1812.
19. OLSDOTTER, Carin, b. Enånger Parish (Gävl.) 1788; d. Norrala 1855.
20. LARSSON, Erik, b. Ockelbo Parish (Gävl.) 1787; m. Hamrånge 1811.
21. ERSDOTTER, Catharina, b. Hamrånge 1791; d. probably Hamrånge.
22. JONSSON, Carl, b. Hille 1786; m. 1814; d. 1818.
23. BERGWALL/PEHRSDOTTER, Brita, b. Hille 1790; d. 1836.
24. PERSSON, Johannes, b. Liared 1774; m. Hössna Parish (Älvs.) 1805; d. Liared 1828.
25. ANDERSDOTTER, Cajsa, b. Hössna 1779; d. Liared 1859.
26. SVENSSON, Abraham, b. Kölingared Parish (Älvs.) 1766; m. 1797; d. Liared 1857.
27. ISAKSDOTTER, Maria, b. Strängsered Parish (Älvs.) 1768; d. Liared 1857.
28. HULT/JOHANSSON, Abraham, b. Ödestugu 1787; m. Svenarum 1808.
29. GARIELSDOTTER, Stina Catharina, b. Svenarum 1783.
30. JONASSON, Gustaf, b. Tofteryd 1780; m. 1807; d. probably Byarum 1862.
31. DANIELSDOTTER, Ingrid, b. Tofteryd 1777; d. Tofteryd 1816.
- V. 32. ERSSON, Eric, b. Norrala 1742; m. 1768; d. 1827.
33. JONSDOTTER, Carin, b. Norrala 1744; d. ca. 1827.
34. LIND/OLSSON, Olof, b. Norrala 1749; m. 1779.
35. ANDERSDOTTER, Kerstin, b. Norrala 1751. Known as Andersdotter instead of Svensdotter.
36. PERSSON, Eric, b. Norrala 1742; m. 1774.
37. OLSDOTTER, Ingrid, b. Norrala 1747.
38. PERSSON, Olof, b. Enånger 1757; d. Norrala 1820.
39. JANS DOTTER, Margta, b. Enånger 1756; d. Norrala 1840.
40. ERSSON, Lars, b. Ockelbo, probably 1751; d. Ockelbo probably 1823.
41. PERSDOTTER, Anna, b. 1754; d. Ockelbo probably 1830.
42. LARSSON, Eric, b. Hamrånge 1765; m. 1789; d. 1834.
43. LARSDOTTER, Cecilia, b. Hamrånge 1763; d. 1832.

44. CARLSSON/MÖLLER, Jonas, b. Hille 1758; m. 1786; d. 1836.
 45. OLOFSDOTTER, Helena, b. Hille 1761; d. 1830.
 46. BERGWALL/PERSSON, Per, b. Hille 1752; m. 1779.
 47. NILSDOTTER, Margareta, b. Hille 1760.
 48. ANDERSSON, Per, b. Liared ca. 1734–1736; m. ca. 1770; d. Liared 1797.
 49. HÅKANSDOTTER, Carin, b. Liared 1; d. 1819.
 50. ANDERSSON, Anders, b. Marbäck Parish (Älvs.) 1736; m. 1770; d. Hössna 1816.
 51. JONSDOTTER, Kerstin, b. probably Marbäck 1742; d. Hössna 1782.
 52. HÅKANSSON, Sven, b. Bjurbäck Parish (Älvs.) 1736; m. ca. 1760; d. ca. 1770, possibly Kölingared.
 53. ANDERSDOTTER, Sara, b. Kölingared 1731; d. probably Bjurbäck.
 54. ANDERSSON, Isak, b. ca. 1730; d. Strängsered probably 1771.
 55. ERICSDOTTER, Marta, b. Strängsered 1734; d. 1773.
 56. ERICSSON, Johan, b. Ödestugu 1748; m. ca. 1773; d. Ödestugu 1820.
 57. IVARSDOTTER, Ingeborg, b. probably 1750; d. Ödestugu 1803.
 58. LARSSON, Gabriel, b. Svenarum 1756; m. 1782; d. 1844.
 59. MÅNSDOTTER, Stina, b. Byarum 1759; d. Ödestugu 1844.
 60. MATHISSON, Jonas, b. Tofteryd possibly 1720; m. 1764 (?); d. Tofteryd 1793.
 61. JOHANSDOTTER, Kerstin, b. Tofteryd 1744.
 62. GUSTAFSSON, Daniel, b. Tofteryd 1742; m. 1768; d. 1800.
 63. JONSDOTTER, Catharina, b. Tofteryd 1744; d. 1784.
- VI.
64. LARSSON, Eric, b. Norrala 1703; m. 1726; d. 1779–1780.
 65. PERSDOTTER, Brita, b. Norrala 1704; d. 1790.
 66. NILSSON, Jon, b. Norrala 1705; m. 1733; d. 1769.
 67. OLSDOTTER, Helena, b. Norrala 1709; d. 1775.
 68. LIND/LARSSON, Olof, b. Norrala 1695; m. 1744; d. 1763.
 69. MICKELSDOTTER, Kerstin, b. Mo Parish (Gävl.); d. Norrala 1772.
 70. LERKA/NORLING, Sven, b. Falun (Kopp.) 1728; m. Brita Ersdotter d. probably Norrala.
 71. HANSDOTTER, Gölin, b. Norrala 1725; m. 1760 Anders Olsson; d. Norrala 1809.
 72. JÖNSSON, Per, b. Norrala 1708; m. 1737; d. 1777.
 73. ERSDOTTER, Helena.

74. OLSSON, Olof, b. Norrala 1715; m. 1743; d. probably Norrala.
75. JONSDOTTER, Helena, b. Norrala 1721; d. 1780.
76. OLOFSSON, Per, b. Enånger 1728; m. 1750; d. 1800.
77. OLOFSDOTTER, Carin, b. Enånger 1722; d. Norrala 1803.
78. SVENSSON, Jon, b. Enånger 1728; m. 1753; d. Enånger.
79. NILSDOTTER, Margreta, b. Enånger 1719; d. probably Enånger.
84. OLSSON, Lars, b. Hamrånge 1723; m. Ovansjö Parish (Gävl.); d. Hamrånge 1805.
85. JONSDOTTER, Carin, b. Ovansjö 1726; d. Hamrånge 1807.
86. PERSSON, Lars, d. Hamrånge; m. 1747; d. 1773.
87. PERSDOTTER, Marta, b. Hamrånge; d. 1782.
88. CARLSSON/MÖLLER, Carl, b. Hille 1735; m. 1758; d. 1809.
89. JONSDOTTER, Christina, b. Valbo Parish (Gävl.) 1734; d. Hille 1799.
90. ANDERSSON, Olof, b. Hamrånge 1722; m. 1751; d. Hille 1799.
91. ANDERSDOTTER, Catharina, b. Hille 1725; d. 1783.
92. OLSSON, Per, b. Hille 1724; m. 1747; d. 1779; *nämndeman* (juror).
93. OLSDOTTER, Helena, b. Hille 1727.
94. ANDERSSON, Nils, b. Hille 1709; m. 1749; d. 1785.
95. LUNDGREN/HANSDOTTER, Brita, b. Hille 1725; d. 1794.
96. SVENSSON, Anders, b. probably in Älvsborg län.
97. ISAKSDOTTER, Catharina.
98. PERSSON, Håkan, b. Hössna 1700; m. 1729; d. Liared 1782.
99. GUNNARSDOTTER, Ingeborg, b. Liared 1699; d. Liared 1772.
100. HANSSON, Anders, resided probably in Marbäck and Hössna.
101. JONASDOTTER, Kerstin.
102. MATTESSON, Jon, resided in Kärrabo, Maräck Parish.
103. ANDERSDOTTER, Stina.
104. ANDERSSON, Håkan, b. 1695; m. 1728; d. Bjurbäck 1783.
105. NILSDOTTER, Kerstin, b. 1708; d. Bjurbäck 1794.
106. JONSSON, Anders, resided in Kölingared.
107. PERSDOTTER, Ingier.
110. SVENSSON, Eric, b. Strängsered 1697; m. ca. 1733; d. 1768.

111. PERSDOTTER, Margareta, resided in Strängsered; d. 1784.
 112. JOHANSSON, Eric, b. Ödestugu 1723; m. 1747; d. probably 1807.
 113. JOHANS DOTTER, Carin, b. Ödestugu; d. Ödestugu 1793.
 114. JONSSON, Ivar, b. Ödestugu 1717; m. 1745; d. 1799. Soldier.
 115. BENGTS DOTTER, Maria, b. Ödestugu 1717.
 116. SVENSSON, Lars, b. Svenarum 1709; m. 1740; d. 1787.
 117. HÅKANSDOTTER, Maja, b. Svenarum ca. 1710.
 118. NILSSON, Måns, b. Byarum probably 1730; m. Byarum 1758.
 119. SVENSDOTTER, Catharina, b. Byarum probably ca. 1734.
 120. LARSSON, Mattis, b. Tofteryd; probably resided there.
 121. JONSDOTTER, Lisbet.
 122. NILSSON, Johan, b. Tofteryd ca. 1700.
 123. JONSDOTTER, Ingrid, b. Tofteryd 1700; d. probably Tofteryd 1763.
 124. DANIELSSON, Gustaf, b. Tofteryd 1685; m. 1727; d. 1747.
 125. JONSDOTTER, Ingrid, b. Tofteryd 1694.
 126. JONSSON, Jon, b. Tofteryd 1715; m. 1745; d. probably in Tofteryd.
 127. INGIELSDOTTER, Carin, b. Tofteryd 1723; d. Tofteryd 1788.
- VII.
128. TYRISSE, Lars, b. Norrala 1650; m. (2nd) 1698; d. Norrala.
 129. ERICSDOTTER, Sigrid, b. Rengsjö Parish (Gävl.); d. Norrala 1754.
 130. HANSSON, Per, b. Norrala ca. 1670; m. 1694; d. Norrala.
 131. MATTS DOTTER, Brita, b. Enånger; d. Norrala.
 132. JOHANSSON, Nils, b. Norrala 1683; m. ca. 1704; d. 1741.
 133. JOENSDOTTER, Gölin, b. Norrala 1680; d. Norrala 1765.
 134. PERSSON, Olof, b. Norrala 1665; m. 1696; d. 1750.
 135. OLOFSDOTTER, Margareta, b. Norrala 1672; d. 1755.
 136. OLOFSSON/ELG(?), Lars, b. Norrala ca. 1650; m. 1691.
 137. LARSDOTTER, Carin, b. Norrala ca. 1655.
 138. JONSSON, Mickel, b. Mo; m. 1703; d. probably Mo before 1744.
 139. PERSDOTTER, Kerstin, b. Mo; d. Mo 1722.
 140. NORMAN/SVENSSON, Olof, b. Falun 1694; m. ca. 1727; d. 1735.
 141. PALM, Christina, b. Kopparberg län; d. ca. 1735.
 142. RING/PERSSON, Hans, b. Norrala probably 1702; m. ca. 1724. *Båtsman* (sailor).

143. OLSDOTTER, Brita, b. Norrala possibly 1698; d. Norrala 1741.
144. OLSSON, Jöns, b. Arbrå Parish (Gävl.) 1681; m. 1705; d. Norrala 1749.
145. PERSDOTTER, Barbro, b. Norrala 1680; d. 1759.
146. ELG/HANSSON, Eric (probably), b. Norrala 1681; d. Norrala probably 1750. *Båtsman* (sailor).
147. PERSDOTTER, Helena, b. Norrala; d. probably Norrala.
148. OLSSON, Olof, b. Norrala 1685; m. 1714; d. Norrala 1765.
149. OLSDOTTER, Kerstin, b. Norrala 1688; d. 1760.
150. ANDERSSON, Jonas, b. Norrala 1684; m. 1709; d. 1740.
151. OLOFSDOTTER, Ingrid, b. Norrala 1687; d. 1759.
152. JONSSON, Olof, b. Enånger 1697; m. 1717; d. 1734.
153. NILSDOTTER, Brita, b. Enånger 1688; d. 1765.
154. OLOFSSON, Olof, b. Enånger 1687; m. 1715; d. probably Enånger.
155. ANDERSDOTTER, Brita, b. Enånger 1690; d. 1733.
156. OLOFSSON, Sven, b. Enånger 1691; m. 1725; d. 1731.
157. JOHANSDOTTER, Anna, b. Trönö Parish (Gävl.) 1704.
158. HINDRIKSSON, Nils, b. Enånger 1685; m. 1716; d. 1757.
159. ERICSDOTTER, Margreta, b. Enånger 1696; d. 1758.
168. LARSSON, Olof, b. Hamrånge 1694; d. 1758. *Nämndeman* (juror).
169. OLSDOTTER, Margareta, b. Hamrånge 1694; d. 1755.
170. KLINGMAN/PERSSON, Jon, b. Ovensjö 1683; m. 1715; d. 1749.
171. ERICSDOTTER, Lisbet, b. Ovensjö probably 1693.
172. LARSSON, Per, b. Hamrånge 1665; m. 1723.
173. LARSDOTTER (?), Ella, b. Hamrånge 1673; d. 1746.
174. LARSSON, Per, b. Hamrånge 1692; m. 1718; d. 1766.
175. PERSDOTTER, Kerstin, b. Hamrånge 1685; d. 1769.
176. CARLSSON/MÖLLER, Carl, b. Örebro 1707; m. Hille 1734; d. 1779.
177. JOHANSDOTTER, Regina, b. Hille 1711; d. 1778.
178. PERSSON, Jon, b. Hille 1706; m. 1730; d. 1781.
179. ANDERSDOTTER, Margreta, b. Hedesunda Parish (Gävl.) 1704; d. Valbo 1776.
180. ANDERSSON, Anders, b. Hamrånge 1688; m. ca. 1714; d. Hille 1743.
181. GÖRANSDOTTER, Anna, b. Hamrånge probably 1685; d. Hille 1738.
182. MATTSSON, Anders, b. Hille 1681; d. Hille 1738.
183. OLOFSDOTTER, Helena, b. Hille 1698; d. 1779.
184. PERSSON, Olof, b. Hille 1699; m. ca. 1723; d. 1740. *Nämndeman* (juror).
185. ANDERSDOTTER, Catharina, b. Hille 1698; d. 1779.

186. ERICSSON, Olof, b. Hille 1680; d. 1762. *Kyrkvård* (vestryman).
187. PERSDOTTER, Carin, b. Hille ca. 1686; d. 1747.
188. CARLSSON, Anders, b. Hille 1663; d. 1741. *Kyrkvård* (vestryman).
189. NILSDOTTER, Gölin, b. probably in Gävle ca. 1692; d. Hille 1753.
190. LUNDGREN/PERSSON, Hans, b. Hille 1693; d. Hille 1750. Sergeant.
191. PERSDOTTER, Margta, b. Hille 1687; d. 1757.
196. Månsson, Per, b. Hössna ca. 1670; m. 1696.
197. HÅKANSDOTTER, Ingeborg, b. ca. 1675; resided in Hössna.
198. ANDERSSON, Gunnar, resided probably Liared.
199. SVENSDOTTER, Carin.
208. ———, Anders, resided probably in Bjurbäck.
209. ———, Brita.
210. NILSSON, Nils, b. 1670; d. Bjurbäck probably 1754.
211. ANDERSDOTTER, Carin, b. probably 1675; d. Bjurbäck 1759.
220. LARSSON, Sven, b. Strängsered probably 1656; m. ca. 1692; d. 1744.
221. SVENSDOTTER, Brita, b. ca. 1656; d. Strängsered 1743.
224. JOHANSSON, Johan, b. Ödestugu; d. 1732.
225. PERSDOTTER, Brita, b. Ödestugu 1683; d. 1765.
226. LARSSON, Johan, b. Ödestugu 1670; d. 1722.
227. PERSDOTTER, Ingeborg, b. ca. 1670; d. Ödestugu 1755.
228. MÅNSSON, Jon, b. Ödestugu 1679; m. 1708; d. 1746.
229. IVARSDOTTER, Ingeborg, b. Ödestugu 1688; d. 1737.
230. ZACHRISSON, Bengt, b. Ödestugu 1680; m. 1711; d. 1761.
231. MÅNSDOTTER, Sara, b. Rogberga Parish (Jön.) 1685; d. Ödestugu 1748.
232. LARSSON, Sven, b. Svenarum 1667; d. 1735.
233. PERSDOTTER, Kerstin, b. ca. 1678; d. Svenarum 1756.
234. LARSSON, Håkan, b. Svenarum probably ca. 1680; d. before 1759.
235. MÅNSDOTTER, Catharina, b. Svenarum 1688; d. 1759.
236. CARLSSON, Nils, b. probably Byarum ca. 1700; m. 1729.
237. JONSDOTTER, Marit (probably) or SVENSDOTTER, Annika (possibly).
240. SVENSSON, Lars, resided in Tofteryd.
241. MATTISDOTTER, Ingeborg, b. Tofteryd 1661.
242. JONSSON, Jon (probably), resided Tofteryd.
243. JOHANSDOTTER, Ingrid.

244. LARSSON, Nils (probably), resided Tofteryd.
245. JONSDOTTER, Marit.
246. JONSSON, Jon (probably), resided Tofteryd.
247. ASSARSDOTTER, Kerstin.
248. PERSSON, Daniel, b. Tofteryd 1642; m. ca. 1683; d. 1731.
249. ANDERSDOTTER, Ingeborg (Ingegärd), b. Tofteryd 1649; d. 1736.
252. NILSSON, Jon, b. Tofteryd 1687; m. 1713.
253. MÅNSDOTTER, Ingrid.
254. SVENSSON, Ingjel, b. Tofteryd 1678; m. 1713; d. 1757.
255. DANIELSDOTTER, Carin, resided Tofteryd; d. before 1750.
- VIII. 256. LARSSON, Tyris, b. Norrala 1618; m. ca. 1643; d. 1708.
257. JONSDOTTER, Anna, b. Norrala 1619; d. 1699.
258. PERSSON, Eric, b. Rengsjö 1638; d. 1708.
259. ———, Annika or Kerstin, b. Rengsjö (?) 1636; d. 1717.
260. JONSSON, Hans, b. Norrala 1642; d. 1698.
261. HANSDOTTER, Margreta.
264. JONSSON, Johan, b. Norrala 1652; d. 1717.
266. LARSSON, Joen, b. Norrala 1656; d. 1730.
267. MÅRTENSDOTTER, Anna.
268. OLOFSSON, Per, b. in Borg, Norrala Parish.
270. ANDERSSON, Olof, b. Norrala ca. 1642; d. 1715.
271. HANSDOTTER, Carin, b. Norrala 1637; d. 1715.
276. MICKELSSON, Jon, b. probably Mo.
278. PERSSON, Per, b. Mo.
280. PERSSON, Sven, d. Falun in June 1697. Master shoemaker.
281. ———, wife, d. Falun April 1697.
284. UDD, Petrus (possibly), resided Norrala.
285. PERSDOTTER, Gölin.
288. JÖNSSON, Olof, b. Arbrå 1654; m. 1676; d. Norrala 1729.
289. PERSDOTTER, Sigrid, b. Arbrå (?) 1653; d. Norrala 1742.
290. JONSSON, Per, b. Norrala 1645; m. ca. 1675; d. 1697.
291. PERSDOTTER, Carin.
292. = 260
293. = 261
294. SVENSSON, Per, b. Norrala ca. 1650.
295. SVENSDOTTER, Anna, b. Norrala 1647; d. 1715.
296. OLSSON, Olof, b. Norrala 1652; d. 1741.
297. OLOFSDOTTER, Sigrid, b. Norrala probably ca. 1660; d. 1712.
298. MICKELSSON, Olof, b. Norrala ca. 1655; d. 1721.
299. JONSDOTTER, Elin, b. Norrala 1658; d. 1748.
300. JONSSON, Anders, b. Norrala 1650; d. 1711.

301. SVENSDOTTER, Brita, b. Norrala 1650; d. 1726.
302. JONSSON, Olof, b. Norrala 1660; d. 1729.
303. PERSDOTTER, Sara, b. Norrala 1660; d. 1727.
304. OLOFSSON, Jonas, b. Enånger 1650.
305. PERSDOTTER, Ingrid, b. Enånger 1650.
306. OLOFSSON, Nils, b. Enånger 1660; m. 1680; d. 1727.
307. PÅLSDOTTER, Elin, b. Enånger 1660; d. 1749.
308. HANSSON, Olof, b. Enånger 1657; d. 1718.
309. PERSDOTTER, Carin, b. Enånger 1658; d. 1691.
310. OLOFSSON, Anders, b. Enånger 1651; m. 1677; d. 1718.
311. LARSDOTTER, Göli, b. Enånger 1646; d. 1728.
312. NILSSON, Olof, b. Enånger 1651; d. 1730.
313. SVENSDOTTER, Anna, b. Enånger 1660; d. 1693.
314. HERMANSSON, Johan, resided Trönö.
315. MÅRTENSDOTTER, Brita.
316. MÅNSSON, Hindrik, b. Enånger 1660.
317. GRELSDOTTER, Barbro, b. Enånger probably 1660.
318. PEDERSSON, Eric, b. Enånger 1662; m. 1679; d. 1722.
319. MICKELSDOTTER, Margta, b. Enånger 1658; d. 1732.
336. OLSSON, Lars, b. Hamrånge ca. 1660; d. 1711.
337. HANSDOTTER, Brita, b. Hamrånge 1666; d. 1742.
344. NILSSON, Lars, b. Hamrånge; d. ca. 1740.
345. LARSDOTTER, Cecilia, b. Hamrånge 1649; d. 1742.
348. PERSSON, Lars, b. Hamrånge; resided in Hamrånge.
349. ERSDOTTER, Margareta, b. probably Hamrånge.
350. ERSSON, Per, b. Hamrånge; resided Hamrånge.
351. PERSDOTTER, Carin.
356. HENRICHSSON, Per, b. Hille 1664; d. 1742.
357. MICKELSDOTTER, Christina, resided probably Hille.
358. LARSSON, Anders, b. Hedesunda; m. 1689; d. probably Hille.
359. LARSDOTTER, Helena, b. Hedesunda ca. 1666; d. Hille 1747.
368. OLOFSSON, Peder, b. Hille 1668; m. ca. 1696; d. 1737.
369. OLOFSDOTTER, Brita, b. Hille 1671; d. 1740.
370. JONSSON, Anders, b. Hille 1656; m. ca. 1687; d. 1734.
371. PERSDOTTER, Catharina, b. Hille 1663; d. 1750.
372. PERSSON, Eric, b. Hille 1657; d. 1732.
373. LARSDOTTER, Margta.
380. LARSSON, Peder, b. Hille ca. 1665; resided Hille.
381. PEDERSDOTTER, Elin, b. Hille ca. 1665; resided Hille.
420. NILSSON, Nils, resided probably Bjurbäck.
421. PERSDOTTER, Kerstin.
422. CLEMENTSSON, Anders, resided probably Bjurbäck.
423. ——— Kerstin.

440. SVENSSON, Lars, b. Strängsered 1607; d. 1702.
441. ——— Märta, b. Strängsered 1619; d. 1699.
458. MÅNSSON, Ivar, b. Ödestugu 1656; d. 1716.
459. NILSDOTTER, Carin, b. Ödestugu ca. 1660.
460. BENGTTSSON, Zachris, b. Ödestugu 1648; d. 1725.
461. JOHANSDOTTER, Elin, b. Ödestugu probably 1653; d. 1723.
472. JONSSON, Carl, b. probably Byarum.
473. ANDERSDOTTER, Ingeborg.
510. PERSSON, Daniel, b. Tofteryd 1645; d. 1729.
511. ———, Carin, d. Tofteryd 1717.
- IX. 512. LARSSON, Lars, resided Norrala.
516. PERSSON, Per, b. Rengsjö ca. 1585; d. Rengsjö.
520. PERSSON, Jon, b. Norrala 1615; d. 1698.
528. RUMMEL/OLOFSSON, Jon, b. Ljusdal Parish (Gävl.) 1608; d. Norrala 1693.
529. OLOFSDOTTER, Kerstin, b. Enånger 1624; d. Norrala 1700.
532. JONSSON, Lars, resided Norrala. Owned four cows in 1622.
540. SIMONSSON, Anders, b. Norrala 1617; d. 1692.
584. = 520.
596. OLOFSSON, Mickel, b. Norrala 1625; d. Norrala.
598. PERSSON, Jöns, b. Norrala 1625; d. 1704.
599. JOACHIMSDOTTER, Margreta, b. Norrala 1627; d. 1703.
600. ANDERSSON, Jon, b. Norrala ca. 1620. Captain.
601. ———, Brita.
604. OLOFSSON, Jon, b. Norrala (?); resided Norrala 1670.
608. LARSSON, Olof, b. Enånger 1606; d. 1699.
609. ———, Margta, b. Enånger 1607; d. 1692.
612. NILSSON, Olof, b. Enånger 1603; d. 1691.
613. OLOFSDOTTER, Brita, b. 1615; d. Enånger 1695.
614. PERSSON, Pål, b. Enånger probably 1613; d. 1698.
615. LARSDOTTER, Carin, b. Enånger probably 1611; d. 1699.
616. OLSSON, Hans, b. Enånger probably 1630; d. 1711.
617. NILSDOTTER, Carin, b. Enånger probably ca. 1630; d. 1690.
620. ANDERSSON, Olof, b. Enånger 1615.
621. OLSDOTTER, Göli, b. Enånger 1620; d. 1670.
622. JONSSON, Lars, resided Enånger.
623. MICKELSDOTTER, Brita.
624. OLOFSSON, Nils, b. Enånger 1620.
625. LARSDOTTER, Ella, b. Enånger 1617; d. 1698.
636. ERICSSON, Per, b. Enånger 1620.
637. PERSDOTTER, Anna.

638. OLOFSSON, Mickel, b. Enånger 1600. Bailiff.
639. NILSDOTTER, Margareta, b. Enånger 1614; d. 1694.
672. ÅKESSON, Olof, b. Hamrånge ca. 1634.
673. LARSDOTTER, Margreta.
712. HINDRICHSSON, Hindrich, resided Hille; d. ca. 1705.
716. JONSSON, Lars, resided Hedesunda; d. 1691.
717. ANDERSDOTTER, Ingrid, d. 1697.
718. ANDERSSON, Lars, resided Hedesunda.
736. PERSSON, Olof resided Hille; d. before 1729.
737. JONSDOTTER, Christina, b. Hille 1648; d. 1729.
- X. 1020. DANIELSSON, Per; resided Tofteryd; d. 1698.
1024. NILSSON, Lasse, resided Norrala 1613.
1040. HANSSON, Peder, b. Norrala. Owned nine cows in 1622.
1064. LARSSON, Joen, resided Norrala. Owned four cows in 1600.
1080. MICKELSSON, Simon, b. Norrala. Owned six cows in 1622.
1168. = 1040
1192. PERSSON, Olof, b. Norrala. Owned ten cows in 1622.
1193. MICKELSDOTTER, ———.
1196. JONSSON, Peder, b. Norrala. Owned seven cows in 1622.
1198. ———, Joachim, b. Norrala. Owned seven cows in 1622.
1200. KROK, Anders, b. Norrala ca. 1590; student 1608; clergyman in Norrala 1642; d. 1646.
1201. SCALINA, Ingrid, b. probably Segersta Parish (Gävl.).
1216. OLSSON, Lars, b. Enånger ca. 1580.
1217. PERSDOTTER, Anna, b. Enånger 1590.
1228. JONSSON, Per, resided Enånger 1631.
1232. ANDERSSON, Olof, b. Enånger ca. 1600.
1233. MICKELSDOTTER, Brita.
1240. OLOFSSON, Anders, b. Enånger ca. 1580.
1248. MICKELSSON, Olof, b. Enånger ca. 1600.
1249. PERSDOTTER, Gulligh.
1272. PERSSON, Eric, b. Enånger ca. 1600.
1344. ERICSSON, Åke, b. Hamrånge ca. 1610.
- XI. 2080. PERSSON, Hans, b. Norrala. Owned eleven cows in 1600.
2081. ———, Carin, b. Trönö; d. Norrala.
2128. OLSSON, Lasse, b. Norrala. Owned 8 cows in 1560.
2160. SIMONSSON, Mickel, resided Norrala 1600.
2172. = 2080
2173. = 2081
2384. PERSSON, Mickel, resided Norrala 1559.
2392. PERSSON, Jöns. b. Norrala ca. 1560. Owned nine cows in 1600.
2400. KROK, Jonas, clergyman in Norrala.
2401. ———, Cecilia.

2402. SCALIN, Lars Ericsson, b. Segersta Parish (Gävl.) 1576; clergyman in Söderala Parish (Gävl.) d. Söderala 1656. First called himself Sadurstadius, later Gille and then Scalin.
2403. JONSDOTTER, Catharina, b. Söderala probably 1590; d. 1672.
2434. JONSSON, Per, b. Enånger ca. 1550. Owned seven cows in 1591.
2464. OLSSON, Anders, b. Enånger ca. 1580.
2480. PERSSON, Olof, b. Enånger ca. 1540.
2498. NILSSON, Per, resided Enånger 1575.
2688. JÖNSSON, Eric, b. Hamrånge ca. 1570.
- XII. 4160. ERICSSON, Per, resided Norrala 1559; d. ca. 1570.
4161. ———, Kerstin, named widow in 1580.
4320. PERSSON, Simon, b. Norrala. Owned six cows in 1560.
4384. = 4160
4385. = 4161
4784. PERSSON, Per, b. Norrala ca. 1530. Owned six cows in 1560.
4800. KROK, Olaus Jonae, later NERBELIUS; b. 1560; d. 1641.
4804. PETRI, Ericus, b. Söderala 1523; d. Segersta 1606. Clergyman in Segersta.
4805. ———, Brita, d. Segersta 1614.
4806. ———, Jonas, resided in Söderala, where he was a clergyman.
4868. PERSSON, Jon, b. Enånger. Owned six cows in 1569.
4960. MÅNSSON, Per, b. Enånger ca. 1520.
4996. OLOFSSON, Nils, resided Enånger.
4997. ———, Gölin.
5376. OLSSON, Jön, b. Hamrånge ca. 1545.
- XIII. 8324. LARSSON, Mickel, resided Trönö.
8325. ———, Gölig.
8772. = 8324
8773. = 8325
9600. OLAVI, Jonas, d. Norrala 1611.
9920. PERSSON, Måns, resided Enånger ca. 1490.
10752. LARSSON, Olof, resided Hamrånge 1543.
- XIV. 16648. PERSSON, Lars, resided Trönö 1535.
16649. ———, Sigrid.
17544. = 16,648
17545. = 16,649
19200. RAIJERUS, Olof, b. 1499; d. Norrala 1581.

Note: Nathan Söderblom (1866–1931), formerly Archbishop of Sweden, shares many of the same lines with Olof Olsson Norell (No. 4). They were third cousins.

Genealogical Queries

Queries from subscribers to *Swedish American Genealogist* will be listed here free of charge on a "space available basis." The Editor reserves the right to edit the question to conform to the general format.

Möller, Miller

Where in Illinois did Johan Möller (John Miller), his wife Inga (Ida) Peterson and three small children settle upon their arrival from Sweden? In 1864 they came by ship, leaving Malmö en route to Quebec from their southern Sweden home. They then journeyed overland to Illinois, where they stayed for two or three years. Possibly another child was born to them there. There is no doubt but that they lived in an area settled by Swedes. They should be listed in the 1865 Illinois State Census, but where? They later moved to western Michigan.

Mrs. Joyce M. Scott

8 Applewood Lane

London, Ontario, CANADA N6J 3P8

217

Gustafsson

I am looking for the descendants of a brother and sister, b. in Nöbbeled Parish (Kron.). They were:

a. Ida Christina Gustafsson, b. Jan. 2, 1871, who departed from Göteborg for New York on board the *Venetia* Dec. 15, 1893.

b. Carl August Gustafsson, b. Aug. 22, 1858. He was a tailor in the parish of Linneryd (Kron.) and left for the U.S. Sept. 6, 1892. His wife, Alma Nilsson, b. July 14, 1862 and their four children — Knut Wilhelm, b. March 29, 1883; Frida Emilia, b. Sept. 22, 1885; Ellen Maria, b. Jan. 4, 1888 and Hilma Theresia, b. in 1891, all left for the U.S. Sept. 10, 1895.

Håkan Linderyd

Mastvägen 56

613 00 Oxelösund, SWEDEN

218

Paulsdotter, Paulsson

I am searching for information concerning a brother and a sister b. in Nöbbeled Parish (Kron.). They were:

a. Ingrid Paulsdotter, b. Oct. 11, 1836. She was m. to Carl Pettersson, b. Dec. 28, 1841 and who emigr. April 6, 1869. There were three children — Johan Peter, b. April 26, 1860; Emma Mathilda, b. July 6, 1867 and Johanna

Lovisa, b. Nov. 29, 1869. The mother and the three children left for America May 3, 1870.

b. Carl Paulsson, b. Aug. 25, 1839. He was m. but unknown to whom. He left Sweden and his wife (?) April 17, 1868.

Håkan Linderyd

Mastvägen 56

613 00 Oxelösund, SWEDEN

219

Carlson

I am looking for information about my grandfather, John Wilhelm Carlson, who was b. in Långhem Parish (Älvs.) March 29, 1887. He emigr. to the U.S. in April of 1910 and settled in Dayton, OH, before moving to Chicago ca. 1920. His father, Carl Johan Larson, was b. in Långhem Jan. 18, 1858 and his mother, Amanda Rylander, was b. in Redslared Parish (Älvs.) March 10, 1850. I believe that both Carl Johan and Amanda are buried in Långhem. Any information concerning this family would be much appreciated.

Catherine A. Leahey

431 Spotswood Ave.,

Norfolk, VA 23517

220

Nilsson, Nilsdotter

I am looking for information concerning the following siblings, all b. in Vena Parish (Kalm.), who emigr. to America:

- a. Carl Johan Nilsson, b. Jan. 29, 1852.
- b. Christina Lovisa Nilsdotter, b. Jan. 19, 1854.
- c. Nils Magnus Nilsson, b. Dec. 27, 1857.
- d. Emma Maria Nilsdotter, b. March 27, 1862.
- e. Carolina Mathilda Nilsdotter, b. April 26, 1865.
- f. Otto Vilhelm Nilsson, b. Oct. 13, 1867.

All of these siblings probably settled in Salina, KS from 1870 to 1882. I have in my possession a photograph of Uncle Otto, taken by a photographer named Atherton in Salina.

Jan Agertz

Lasarettsvägen 5

575 00 Eksjö, SWEDEN

221

Johansdotter, Björklund

I am searching for information about these persons who left for America:

a. Sofia Emilia Johansdotter, b. in Vena Parish (Kalm.) May 5, 1880. In Dec. 1911 she sent a post card to Sweden, giving her address as 4528 West 28th Ave., Denver, CO.

b. Gustaf Emil William Björklund was b. in Kläckeberga Parish (Kalm.)

Jan. 14, 1893 and emigr. to America Sept. 30, 1910.

Jan Agertz

Lasarettsvägen 5

575 00 Eksjö

222

Sundén, Sundeen, Bjurman, Hansson, Åsberg

I am seeking information concerning descendants of six of my wife's relatives, who emigr. to America and settled in Holdrege, NE. They were all b. in Sundborn Parish (Kopp.) and were as follows:

a. Daniel Henric Sundén, b. in May 1852 and his wife Greta Lisa Bjurman, b. in July 1848. This couple emigr. in 1879.

b. Anders Sundén, b. in Feb. 1812 and his wife, Greta Åsberg, b. in June 1815, the parents of Daniel Henric, emigr. either 1880 or 1881 with their granddaughter, Anna Lovisa Hansson, b. in Oct. 1870.

c. Sara Elisabeth Hansson, another granddaughter, b. in Dec. 1871, emigr. in 1888.

I have heard that there are people living in Holdrege today by the name of Sunden or Sundeen.

Börje Östberg

Årbygatan 3 A

633 45 Eskilstuna, SWEDEN

223

Eriksson, Österberg

I am trying to find out something concerning some distant relatives who emigr. to the U.S. and settled in Providence, RI.

In 1889 Edla Karolina Eriksson, b. Nov. 21, 1853, emigr. She seems to have m. a widower in Providence by the name of Österberg and with whom she had five children — Hilda, Emanuel, Ephraim, Isidor and Emilton. Her address was Mrs. Lina Österberg, 89 Pontiac Street, Providence, RI. She d. May 2, 1917.

Mrs. Carin Netterdag

Skomakargatan 7

754 34 Uppsala

224

Svensson

My grandfather, Carl Edward Svensson, had a brother, Petter Svensson, who arr. in this country in 1880. Since my grandfather d. early, the family lost track of his brother. I am anxious to know if there are any descendants of Petter Svensson. We might have some long lost cousins in this country.

Petter Svensson, b. in Torpa Parish (Kron.) July 18, 1822, emigr. from Tving Parish (Blek.) in 1880 with his wife, Benedikte Pettersdotter, b. in

Nöttja Parish (Krist.) March 28, 1831. Their four children, all b. in Nöttja, were:

- Tina Maria Pettersdotter, b. June 30, 1871
- Otto Elvin Pettersson, b. March 9, 1873
- Tolfyra Selmina Pettersdotter, b. April 9, 1875
- Oskar Trittonius Pettersson, b. April 10, 1878

Joseph A. Svenson

1741 Beach Parkway, Apt. 210

Cape Coral, FL 33904

225

Bergström

In 1910–1915 my aunt, Olga Sandberg Backford of Chicago, used to write to a cousin of her mother's in Sweden, but soon lost contact with her. Does anyone have any information on:

Karin Bergström
Skived Vanna
667 00 Forshaga
SWEDEN

Mrs. Bill T. Crawford

802 So. Edgewood Ave.,

Columbia, MO 65201

226

Danielson

My paternal grandfather, Nils Gustaf Danielson, was b. in the vicinity of Linköping, Sweden Feb. 27, 1835, the s. of Daniel Danielson. He had four children:

- a. Gustaf Nilsson or Nelson, b. in the spring of 1867.
- b. Charles Nelson, b. Jan. 20, 1871, who emigr. to America.
- c. Emma Nilsson, b. April 26, 1873, who remained in Sweden.
- d. Alfred Theodore Nelson, my father, b. Nov. 30, 1874 and who emigr. to America.

I would appreciate very much hearing from someone who has had contact with descendants of the above.

Mrs. Esther F. Larson

1695 Route 29, RFD # 1

East Harwich, MA 02645

227

Svensson

My paternal grandfather, Johan Emil Svensson, b. in Tvååker Parish (Hall.) April 21, 1885, emigr. from Morup Parish (Hall.) to America Sept. 28, 1910 via the steamship *Eldorado* from Göteborg to Hull, England and then from Liverpool to New York. He was a tailor, married to Amanda Petters-

dotter, with whom he had three sons, b. 1905–1910. He emigr. alone and is supposed to have been a tailor in New York. According to information in the few letters he wrote home, which unfortunately have not been preserved, he mentioned that he was moving to the “lakes” and my father believes that he went to Chicago ca. 1913. Since that time nothing has been heard from him.

I would appreciate any help in finding out what happened to my grandfather.

Sven Johansson

Delbancogatan 11 F

431 35 Mölndal, SWEDEN

228

Albeson, Bowker/Bouker

I am searching for any and all information on my Swedish ancestors, who came to this country in the 17th century:

a. Nicholas Albeson, “the Swede”, lived in Scituate, MA during King Philip’s War 1676. His granddaughter Sarah Alverson/Albeson, was b. in Scituate in Feb. 1682, m. Thomas Ramsdell and d. in Hanover, MA Aug. 4, 1773.

b. Margarite Bowker/Bouker, “daughter of a Swede”, m. Thomas Holbrook of Weymouth, MA ca. 1650. She d. in Sherborn, MA April 9 1690.

Judith W. Peterson

412 Main St.

Acton, MA 01720

229

Andersson

I am searching for information on Johan Andersson, b. in Hageby Melångård, Rogslösa Parish (Ög.) April 20 1825. He m. Maja Greta Andersdotter in 1847. She was b. on the same farm as he Nov. 26 1825. Johan d. in 1915, whereas Maja Greta had d. already in 1887. They had nine children, b. between 1848 and 1867.

Judith W. Peterson

412 Main St.

Acton, MA 01720

230

Jonsson, Johansson

I am looking for information on Peter Jonsson/Johansson, b. in Korsberga Parish (Jön.) 1829, parents unknown. He m. Maria “Mia” Brita Andersdotter, b. in 1826. He d. in Sweden in 1913, she in 1908.

Judith W. Peterson

412 Main St.

Acton, MA 01720

231

Gustafsson, Andersdotter

I am searching for information concerning the following:

1. The Rev. Johannes Gustaf Gustafsson, b. in Aplanäs, Berga Parish (Kron.) April 15 1828, probably the s. of Catharina Gustafsdotter, who in turn was the dau. of Gustaf Germanson (Germundsson ?) and his wife named Maria, who resided in Bokholmen in Berga. He was m. ca. 1852 to Christina Andersdotter. He emigr. to Rockford, IL in 1871 and d. there Jan. 28 1913. He had nine or ten children.

2. Christina Andersdotter, b. in Angelstad Parish (Kron.) Dec. 27 1824, dau. of Anders Peter Petersson or A. J. Johansson, and his wife Maja Bengtsdotter. She m. Johannes Gustaf Gustafsson (see No. 1 above), with whom she had nine or ten children, all b. in Kyleberg, Svanshals Parish (Ög.). She came to Rockford, IL with her husband and d. there Nov. 28 1910.

Judith W. Peterson
412 Main St.
Acton, MA 01720

232

Grip, Ståhl

I am hoping someone can help me with the following query:

Lisa Grip, b. in Ervalla or Axberg Parish (Ore.) Sept. 6, 1787. She had seven children, b. in Ervalla with the surname Ståhl. Whom did she m. and who was the father of the Ståhl children?

Judith W. Peterson
412 Main St.
Acton, MA

233

Isberg

My grandmother, Sissa (Cecilia) Isberg, b. in Mjällby Parish (Blek.) Dec. 3, 1848, emigr. to America in 1882 and settled in Chicago, IL. My father saw her when he arrived in Chicago in 1892, but it is believed that she d. soon thereafter. Our only cue is a photograph taken of her by the Albert J. Hoffman Studio at 20 Clybourn Ave. in Chicago ca. 1890.

Any information concerning her, such as a church affiliation, occupation, death and place of burial, will be much appreciated.

Mrs. Jeanette Stieve
12421 76th Street
South Haven, MI 49090

234

Hagelin, Andersson, McMichael

On 1 Jan. 1860 Frank (Frans) Gustaf Hagelin was b. in Stockholm, Sweden. In 1880 he emigr. to America and m. in Galesburg, IL Jane (Jennie) Andersson. Their dau. Grace Viola Hagelin was b. 21 June 1883 and m.

Frank Isaac 13 July 1905. Grace d. in Riverside, CA in 1964, two years after the death of her husband.

Frank Hagelin departed from Galesburg some time after 1883 and has not been heard from since. He was supposedly working for the Burlington Railroad as a painter. He was reported to have been dead in 1915, when his father died in Uppsala, Sweden.

His wife, Jane (Jennie) Andersson Hagelin became Mrs. W. W. McMichael in Loup City, NE 12 April 12, 1904. They were divorced in Arcadia, NE 10 June 1927, after which no trace has been found of her. Any information regarding Frank and Jane (Jennie) after 1883 and 1927 respectively will be greatly appreciated.

Björn Hagelin

Kanalvägen 18

183 30 Täby, SWEDEN

235

Sundin

I am seeking descendants of Jonas Nilsson Sundin, b. in Sunnemo Parish (Värml.) 1 Oct. 1846; m. in Njutånger Parish (Gävln.) in the late 1880s to Anna Kajsa Halvardsdotter Ekberg, also b. in Sunnemo 1 May 1859. They had the following children: Maria Christina, b. 1881; Hulda Emilia, b. 1883; Elisabeth, b. 1887 and David Isidor, b. 1890.

During this time the family moved to North Sweden, where Jonas worked at various lumber mills. It is possible that there were additional children.

Oct. 4, 1893 Jonas Nilsson Sundin emigr. to the U.S. and was followed by his wife and four children, who left 7 Sept. 1897. Any leads on descendants of these persons would be appreciated.

Leonard P. Lindquist

1013 Stadium Boulevard

Jefferson City, MO 65101

236

Sandberg, Johannesson

Request information regarding Charles Sandberg/Claes Johannesson, b. in Varnum Parish (Älvs.) 15 May 1836; m. Christina Andersdotter, b. in Brunn Parish (Älvs.) in Dec. 1829. They emigr. to the U.S. and settled in Chicago in the 1880s.

Mildred Sandberg Crawford

802 South Edgewood

Columbia, MO 65201

237

Andersson

Jonas Andersson, b. in Stora Kil Parish (Värml.) in Jan. 1829; d. 11 April 1865, killed, reportedly, in a munitions plant blast in his hometown. His

wife, Anna-Stina Jansdotter, b. in Grums or Grava (Värm.) 19 Jan. 1836, emigr. to Chicago, Il in the 1880s with several children.

I would like to find descendants of the above.

Mildred Sandberg Crawford

802 South Edgewood

Columbia, MO 65201

238

Granlund, Danielsson

I am on the lookout for descendants of the following persons, who emigr. to America:

a. Agnes Maria Granlund, b. in Torslunda Parish (Kalm.) 29 April 1873; emigr. 19 May 1891.

b. Augusta Theresia Granlund, b. in Vickley Parish (Kalm.) 2 Nov. 1874; emigr. 2 Nov. 1893; m. Karlsson.

c. Eugenia Julia Granlund, b. in Vickley 9 Jan. 1878; emigr. 10 March 1896; d. before 1916; had two children, George Emil Ahlström and Ella Virginia Ahlström.

d. Pehr Adrian Emil Granlund, b. in Vickley 15 May 1884; emigr. 1 March 1902; res. in Hillside, Pasadena, CA in 1914.

e. Nanny Emma Carolina Danielsson, b. in Vickley 2 May 1878; emigr. 13 May 1897; m. Wahlström.

g. Edvard Valfred Sextor Danielsson, b. in Vickley 18 July 1884; emigr. 17 April 1906.

Stefan Gottfridsson

Stallgatan 17:111

352 52 Växjö, SWEDEN

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Peterson, Torkelsson

Seeking descendants in Sweden of Nils Peterson, b. in 1873 and August Peterson, b. in 1878, sons of Per Torkelsson and Elna Trulsdotter of Östraby Parish (Malm.). They came from a farm named Oderup No. 10. Their sisters Bengta/Betsy, Ingrid and Emma lived in Minnesota between the 1880s and the 1940s. I have much information concerning my great grandmother Bengta/Betsy and others which I would like to share.

Paula Warren

1869 Laurel Ave.

St. Paul, MN 55104

240

Larson

I am seeking further information concerning the Aron Larson family. Aron was b. in Långhem Parish (Älvs.) 17 June 1791. Who was his wife and when and where did he marry?

Some of their children were: Maja Cajsa, b. 16 Jan. 1814; Olof/Olaus, b. in Fristad Parish (Älvs.) 5 May 1815; Sara, b. 26 July 1820; Lars Johan, b. 11 March 1825; Clara, b. in Borås 10 Dec. 1833. Other children were b. in Dec. 1828 and April 1830. What were their names?

Olof/Olaus emigr. to the U.S. in 1869 and settled in Rock Island Co., IL. Did any other family member also come to America? What happened to the other children?

Mrs. Joyce M. Scott
8 Applewood Lane
London, Ontario N6J 3P8
CANADA

241

Carlsson, Olsson

Can anyone help me find descendants of the following persons, all related to me. They were all b. in Söderåkra Parish (Kalm.) and were siblings:

- a. Johanna Christina Carlsson, b. 8 March 1867; emigr. 23 Aug. 1886.
- b. Jenny Maria Olsson, b. 16 May 1871; emigr. to NY 22 June 1886.
- c. Signe Cecilia Carlsson, b. 24 Jan. 1869; emigr. 8 July 1887.
- d. Betty Victoria Carlsson, b. 6 Feb. 1876; emigr. 31 March 1896.
- e. Carl Fredrik Olsson, b. 20 June 1873; emigr. to Quebec 2 June 1892.
- d. Hilding Conrad Olsson, b. 18 Feb. 1877; emigr. to Canada 17 May 1895.

Martin Olsson
Sjölyckevägen 18
392 47 Kalmar, SWEDEN

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Rinne

Can any reader of SAG help me with information concerning Johan Fredrik Rinne, b. in Åbo, Rauma, Finland 11 March 1891. According to a family tradition he was supposed to have settled in New York State.

E. B. Rinne
Storgatan 56 A, VII
852 30 Sundsvall, SWEDEN

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Peterson, Johansdotter

I am searching for descendants of my ancestors in America. Gustaf Andrew Peterson, b. in or near Tibro Parish (Skar.) 7 May 1867, s. of Peter Jonsson and Maria Brita Andersdotter. Gustaf emigr. to NY in 1890 and then settled in Rockford, IL, where he was a member of the Swedish Baptist Church. Gustaf m. Anna Josefina Johansdotter, 16 Oct. 1897 and remained in Rockford. She was b. in Borghamn, Rogslösa Parish (Ög.) 17 Nov. 1865,

dau. A. Johan Andersson and Maja Greta Andersdotter. She d. in Rockford 5 Feb. 1948.

Judith W. Peterson
412 Main St.
Acton, MA 01720

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Redin, Ståhl, Grip

I am looking for information concerning the following persons:

a. Johan Eric Redin, b. in Axberg or Hallsberg Parish (Öre.) 8 Oct. 1858, s. Eric Redin and Sara Lisa Ståhl. He emigr. 1879 to New York and then to Rockford, IL, where he m. Lydia Johanna Gustafson 3 May 1884. He d. in Rockford 30 Sept. 1926.

b. Eric Redin, b. in Stora Mellösa Parish (Öre.) 15 Oct. 1824. I do not have the names of his parents or siblings. He m. in Axberg 6 June 1858 Sara Lisa Ståhl and d. in Sweden between 1872 and 1877.

c. Sara Lisa Ståhl, b. in Ervalla Parish (Öre.) 20 June 1828, dau. Lisa Grip. Sara Lisa had many siblings with the surname of Ståhl, but no father is mentioned. Where did the name Ståhl come from? She emigr. to Rockford between 1874 and 1877 and d. before 1900.

Judith W. Peterson
412 Main St.
Acton, MA 01720

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Genealogical Research in Skaraborg County

The year of 1984 has been designated as "The Homestead Year" (*Hembygdens År 1984*) in Sweden, when Americans of Swedish descent are invited to visit the land of their ancestors — to view the landmarks of the countryside, from they which emigrated, such as churches, farms, crofts, schools, etc. A huge program is being offered in almost every section of Sweden. The County Library of Skara, serving Skaraborg County in Västergötland, contains a wealth of local historical materials as well as microfilms of that county, particularly parish records of the Swedish churches. The Director of the library, Dr. Arne Sträng, has announced that his library will attempt to help Americans find their Skaraborg ancestors. His advice to readers of *SAG* is to write to him, giving him all pertinent information on hand, and he and his staff will take it from there. He may be addressed at Stifts- och Landsbiblioteket i Skara, 532 00 Skara, SWEDEN.

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